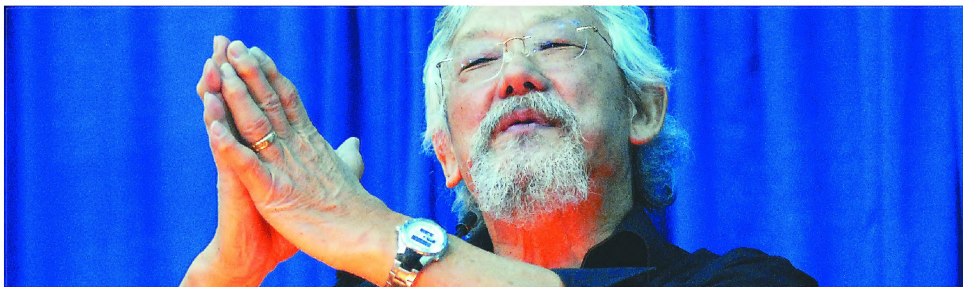


# THE GATEWAY

volume XCVI number 28 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ thursday, 19 january, 2006



**PREACHING AGAINST POLLUTION** David Suzuki was in Edmonton on Tuesday to talk about growing environmental issues and the continued effects of global warming on communities worldwide. JOHNAULT

## SU takes different approach to annual tuition hike

**JAKE TROUGHTON**  
Senior News Editor

The University of Alberta's Board of Governors (BoG) will make its annual tuition decision tomorrow, but thanks to a shift in Students' Union strategy, it may prove less of an event this year.

The SU is hardly ignoring the BoG meeting—there will be events in and around Students' Union Building

tomorrow during and after the morning meeting—but rather than holding a large protest, as in years past, this year's Executive is looking at the meeting as a chance to get the message out on its ongoing lobbying and public relations campaign: the "Roll it Back, Ralph!" ads pressuring Alberta Premier Ralph Klein to increase funding for postsecondary education.

"This piece on Friday will be a

chance for us to make that message loud and clear, and to make sure people understand the importance of the provincial government addressing affordability and quality of education straight on," said SU President Graham Lettner. "But no, it's not the capstone or paramount piece of what the Students' Union is focusing on this year. We're definitely focused on the long-term."

The BoG is expected to decide to raise tuition for the 25th straight year, but it will be a paper increase: Klein has already announced that students will pay the same amount next year as this year, though it's not clear whether the government will cover the cost. Klein's announcement followed a rebate that kept this year's fees at the 2004/05 tuition cost.

PLEASE SEE TUITION ♦ PAGE 6

## Suzuki waxes about earth issues

**EDMON ROTEAU**  
News Staff

CBC television personality and environmental activist Dr. David Suzuki struck a tone of warning as he delivered a lecture to a sold-out audience of concerned citizens and environmentalists at Grant MacEwan's City Centre Campus on Tuesday.

In his presentation, "The Challenge of the 21st Century: Setting the Real Bottom Line," Suzuki discussed a variety of issues including the effect of human activities on the environment, climate change, the perils and ramifications of the economy and globalization, and concerns about the mass media, big business and the government.

Before he began his formal discussion, Suzuki expressed concerns regarding the upcoming federal election and basic democratic rights.

"My mother and father were born and raised in Canada—they never went to Japan. Yet they couldn't vote until long after the Second World War. So I take the privilege of voting very, very seriously," said Suzuki. He also expressed great discontent with the political parties and current election issues, especially for their marginalization of environmental problems.

Suzuki began his presentation by discussing how the human race's unique brain structures and thought patterns allowed humanity to survive, and said this gift of "forefront" is the key to humanity's survival.

"The human brain invented the concept of a future... We're the only animal to affect that future by thinking ahead," Suzuki said.

He went on to discuss the effect of existing consumption patterns, issues of sustainability, and the growth of human population over the last century.

PLEASE SEE SUZUKI ♦ PAGE 3

## NDP candidate Linda Duncan stresses federal reform

*This is the final part of a series of Q&As with candidates for MP in Edmonton-Strathcona. Green Party candidate Cameron Wakefield is featured on page 5. On Tuesday, Conservative incumbent MP Rahim Jaffer and Marxist-Leninist candidate Kevan Hunter were featured. Last week, Liberal Andy Hladyshevsky and Progressive Conservative Mike Fedeyko were featured. Marijanna Party candidate Dave Dowling declined to participate.*

**CHLOE FEDRO**  
Deputy News Editor

Environmental lawyer Linda Duncan is the NDP candidate for Edmonton-Strathcona, running for the first time in a federal election. She has worked for the federal government as the chief of enforcement for Environment Canada and is also the founder of Alberta's Environmental Law Centre. Duncan is an alumnus of the University of Alberta and Dalhousie University, where she taught environmental law.

**What do you consider the three most important issues in this campaign?**

It's hard to pick a few because there are so many issues we need to deal with. I'll give them to you right here: democratic deficit, healthcare and education, and I can lump everything in there. I think we need to reform both

the way that we chose the people who represent us, including at the federal level, and how the business of government is done once people are elected. ... We're very in favour of proportional representation because, clearly, the NDP is getting short shrift. In the last Parliament we had 19 representatives.

My understanding is that, if we went with the proportional representation approach that people are generally favouring, we would have about 50 representatives. So it really shows that things are skewed... We need much greater revision of the way the business is done. There's a lot of controversy about paid lobbyists and so forth, a lot of controversy about who gets appointed to agencies and tribunals and to the courts and to senior positions in the civil service. What we need to do is open up those processes to greater transparency and scrutiny. And healthcare is a huge one when I'm door knocking: it's front and centre in people's minds. It's not enough just to say that we need to improve healthcare; we need to make sure it's affordable and we also need to make sure that it's timely... Our perspective is that taxpayers pay their taxes and they expect that money to be distributed in an accountable way, according to the priorities that we set. And we long ago decided that we really wanted a public, affordable healthcare system... If we're going to make sure that we keep



**TIME FOR CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT** Linda Duncan talks about reforms. LEANNE BROWN

Canada in the leading edge in prosperity and among nations, so that we also have a surplus that we can share with those who are in need, we need to make sure that we're putting our attention on maintaining that social infrastructure. And so the NDP is putting a lot of money towards building the healthcare program, including for universities, putting a lot more money in the education transfer into training more nurses and doctors.

**While postsecondary education is primarily a provincial responsibility, the federal government has long had a role as well. What do you think**

**Ottawa's role should be in this area?**

It's the federal transfer; it's the use of the spending power, and people don't talk about that much... Frankly, there's not much sense in us electing a very democratic federal government, if when the federal government then transfers it over to the provinces, they spend the money in completely different priorities than what Canadians have said... In education, we're saying that it should be transferred over with binding conditions and that the money be tagged so that a huge portion of it goes to reducing student tuition.

PLEASE SEE DUNCAN ♦ PAGE 4

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### Holding court

**Golden Bears' guard Andrew Parker can jump over your head. Seriously.**

FEATURE, PAGE 12



### Playing alone

**U of A playwright Don Hannah is Canada's only Playwright-in-Residence.**

A&E, PAGE 24

### BRIEF HIATUS FROM NEWSPAPER LAND

In an effort to learn more about newspapering, Gateway staffers are heading to a conference in Toronto, preventing the publication of an issue next Tuesday. The Gateway will return on Thursday, 26 January.

## THE GATEWAY

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Students' Union Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2J7Telephone 780.492.6168  
Fax 780.492.6665  
E-mail gateway@gatewayjournal.ca

## editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Daniel Kaszor  
edc@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6168MANAGING EDITOR David Berry  
managing@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.664SENIOR NEWS EDITOR Jake Troughton  
news@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.7308DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR J. Cole Fedio  
deputynews@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6664OPINION EDITOR Tim Peppin  
opinion@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6663ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Mike Larocque  
entertainment@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.752SPORTS EDITOR Chris O'Leary  
sports@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6662PHOTO EDITOR Matt Fehrner  
photoedit@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6648DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR Iris Tse  
production@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6661

## business staff

BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Smith  
biz@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6669AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE Patrick Czolek  
sales@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6700AD GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lisa Lunm  
design@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6647CIRCULATION PAL Adam Gaumont  
circulation@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6669CIRCULATION PAL Tyson Kaban  
circulation@gatewayjournal.ca | 492.6669

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Linux Powerbook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Futura, Baskerville, and Avenir. The Montblanc is the Gateway's sister paper. The Gateway's games of choice are Tetris and Scrabble.

## contributors

Ross "Benny Hill" Pruszkowski, Andrew Borrice, Amanda Ash, Paul Owens, Shari Lyons, Tony Gatzert, Chris Krause, Edmon Rubea, Ben Carter, Leah Anderson, Julia Davis, Scott Ullrich, Mike Kennedy, Cyrus Diston, Scott C. Bourgeois, Mike Robertson, James Stone, Marie-Alexis Jean, Fah Grivickovsky, Paul Cardbridge, Mike Hey, Arnie Das, Phil Head, Mike Orlin, Lesanne Brown, Dana Kampend, Lauren Jennings, Josh Nault, Ben Begley, Hanna Nakh, Rachel Hendricks, Adam Gaumont and a very special thank you to "Chama".  
Dian Laitis

## U of A researcher highlights dangers of aspirin

While doctors often recommend aspirin, one in ten vascular disease patients develop an ulcer as result

IRIS TSE  
Design & Production Editor

It's quite common for today's doctors to recommend aspirin to those suffering from heart and blood-vessel disease. However, the latest research has shown that while aspirin is effective at preventing heart problems, it may also increase the risk of gastric ulcers and subsequent bleeding.

Alan Thomson, a University of Alberta researcher and professor in gastroenterology, in conjunction with scientists from Australia, Spain and the United Kingdom, has discovered that ulcers associated with the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin, remain a major clinical problem.

"Aspirin and other arthritis treatment medications have been known for a long time to cause indigestion, and in others may cause complications such as bleeding," explained Thomson.

"Often times when we're on call and we see patients in the emergency room and they're vomiting blood, we find that they're on aspirin or arthritis treatment medications."

In an article published in the November issue of *Alimentary*

Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Thomson and his colleagues noted the significant increase in ulcer prevalence and incidence in those who were given aspirin therapy.

"What we found was that eleven per cent of people on vascular protective doses of aspirin have an ulcer. That's one in ten," said Thomson, adding that the vascular protective dose in this case was defined as 75–325 mg daily, which is considered to be a low dosage.

"Now that may not seem like a lot, but if you consider that literally tens of thousands of Edmontonians are taking aspirin—either under a doctor's prescription for protection against stroke or heart disease, or just taking aspirin just because of headaches and sore joints—that's a lot of people out there who are having ulcers," he said.

The research also looked at people who didn't have ulcers and followed them over a period of three months to see if they developed ulcers while taking aspirin. The study showed that seven percent of them got ulcers in that time frame.

While the correlation between ulcers and aspirin is not a new discovery, the frequency of it is quite remarkable.

Previous animal studies have shown similar correlations as well, and it has been hypothesised that the ulcers might be a result of change in protective prostaglandin levels, changing the mucous layer in the stomach and reducing blood supply.

"Often times when we're on call and we see patients in the emergency room and they're vomiting blood, we find that they're on aspirin or arthritis treatment medications."

ALAN THOMSON,  
PROFESSOR IN GASTROENTEROLOGY  
AND U OF A RESEARCHER

"We used to think that ulcers were caused by stress, but we now know that the two main causes of ulcers these days are Helicobacter pylori infection or aspirin and NSAIDs," said Thomson. "So in this study, we also

looked at people who are both infected by H. pylori and are taking aspirin, and found that they're more likely to have ulcers in this case, which is not surprising.

"About one in three Canadians has a Helicobacter infection," he added. "So a lot of us have this infection. We don't necessarily know we have an infection, but if you do, and you're taking aspirin, you're at an even higher risk for developing ulcers."

While it's now known that the low dosage of aspirin can still cause ulcers, Thomson believes that this knowledge is unlikely to radically change current clinical practices.

"This well, however, mean that when physicians place their patients on aspirin, they have to caution them of the risks, and that there's a one in ten chance of developing an ulcer and that ulcer can potentially bleed. So people need to be informed of the risks and benefits of taking aspirin," Thomson said.

"The implication of this is that because this is so common, and because there is medication available to protect against this, then we have to be aware that this is a common problem and institute protective therapy."

## STREETERS

With the election coming up in less than a week, politicians are working hard to solicit your vote.

If you could, how much would you sell it for?

Mattias Berkes  
Science IILauren Symyk  
Arts IVAthanasios  
Mentzelopoulos  
Arts IVAaida Rajabali  
Science II

Klein's giving me \$400 at the end of the month. Klein is a Conservative... my vote is worth \$400 for the Conservatives.

I would probably not sell my vote, only because I think having a say in politics is really important and that's about it. My vote is valuable.

\$5.25, because that's how much a beer costs, and someone is probably just as likely to go to a voting booth as to go down to the local pub. Well, of a few people I know. That's not what I would sell it for—I wouldn't personally let it go for that—but that's what I'd expect to get.

It depends. If the party I was voting for was losing, I wouldn't sell it. But if they were likely to get a majority, then I'd sell it off to the highest bidder.

Compiled and photographed by Amanda Ash and Adam Gaumont

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# Zapping muscles to restore tired tissues

U of A researcher hopes to treat spinal cord injuries with electrical stimulation

RACHEL HENDRICKS  
News Writer

New and innovative research from the U of A's Human Neurophysiology Lab is focused on the workings of the nervous system, but it's also suggesting some promising applications for treating spinal cord injuries.

Dr. Dave Collins, an Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Scholar at the U of A, is currently proposing a more natural way of electrically stimulating dissipated muscles. According to Collins, the research could eventually pave the way to restoring mobility in people with spinal cord injuries, but the initial step is to tackle a very present danger for inactive individuals: muscle atrophy.

Muscle atrophy is the wasting of muscle tissue, often caused by disuse, and is markedly linked with heart problems. People who have experienced muscle loss due to a stroke, a broken limb, being encased in a cast for a long period of time or even space flight may develop muscle atrophy. These individuals are also likely to benefit from Collins' research, but

his focus is on those with spinal cord injuries.

"One of the main problems after a spinal cord injury is that people die from cardiovascular disease because they're basically the most sedentary group in the world," explained Collins.

Electrical stimulation has been used to treat this condition in the past, but Collins' approach differs in important ways. The typical method has been to directly stimulate the muscle through electrodes, whereas Collins' method includes the use of reflex pathways.

"[The latter is] a much more natural way because you're activating [the muscle] through its own neurons, which are usually involved in normal involuntary contractions," said Collins. Collins illustrated this further by relating the process to something experienced by anyone in a standard health check-up from the family doctor.

"It's very much like when you tap your knee and your leg goes 'bong,' because you're activating sensory receptors [at the knee] and they go up into the spinal cord, and then activate neurons in the spinal cord that come

out to the muscle."

The significance of this method lies in the muscle fibres that it targets.

"There are some muscle fibres that fatigue very quickly and there are some muscle fibres that are very resistant to fatigue. When you activate the muscle through reflex pathways, you activate the type of muscle fibres that are prone to this atrophy. And when you don't stimulate it directly, you don't really activate those types of muscle fibres," Collins explained.

As of yet, most of Collins' research has been tested on able-bodied participants, but he is currently applying for ethics approval to begin experimentation on spinal cord injury patients.

But Collins and his research team also have an eye on the future.

"We believe that our kind of stimulation, where you activate fatigued resistant muscle fibres, is going to have benefits... for restoring movement as well. But that's a bit more complicated," Collins explained. "To get people walking you have to stimulate a whole bunch of different muscles [and] the timing of the stimulation has to be exactly right. So that's a bit further down the road for us."

# Take the 'Nature Challenge': Suzuki

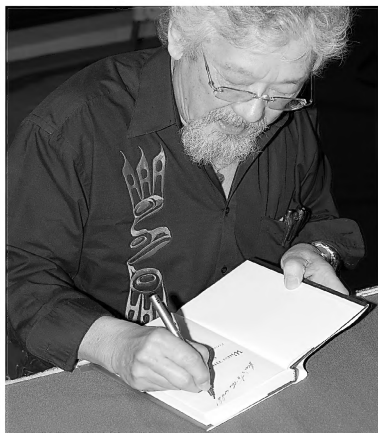
Renowned environmentalist encourages a more nature-friendly lifestyle

SUZUKI • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He cited previous research efforts, including a 1992 document titled "World Scientists' Warning to Humanity"—a document signed by over 1600 leading scientists from around the world, half of whom were Nobel Prize Recipients—emphasizing statements of sustainability and the dangers of existing human activities.

"Human beings and the natural world are on a collision course. Human activities inflict harsh and often irreversible damage on the environment and on critical resources," Suzuki read to the audience. "If not checked, many of our current practices put at serious risk the future that we wish for human society and the plant and animal kingdoms, and may so alter the living world that it will be unable to sustain life in the manner that we know."

Suzuki was alarmed that the 1992 report, which was later followed up by the 2005 UN Millennium Ecosystems Assessment, the largest environmental assessment report ever conducted, received little to no coverage by the international mass media.



JOSHUA NALTY

MADE FROM RECYCLABLE PAGES Suzuki gives fans his autograph.

"If not checked, many of our current practices put at serious risk the future that we wish for human society and the plant and animal kingdoms, and may so alter the living world that it will be unable to sustain life in the manner that we know."

DAVID SUZUKI

He argued that the media was more obsessed with events that, in the grand scheme of history, "will be trivial and absolutely insignificant," rather than the foresight of leading world scien-

tists, who have urged world leaders to prevent a global catastrophe, pointing to events such as the flooding of New Orleans, which was predicted by scientists over a decade ago.

Suzuki also touched upon themes including globalization and human consumption habits.

He went on to describe how everyday acts, such as ordering pizza, purchasing sneakers, or eating farmed salmon fish not only require a lot of resources, energy, and labour, but also pose huge ramifications and consequences for the environment.

"Everything we do has repercussions, and we don't see it," said Suzuki. "We live in a world of a mosaic of shattered pieces, where we no longer see the interconnections."

Suzuki, who was casually dressed in a shirt adorned with an interesting aboriginal design, also critiqued

the economy of consumerism. Referencing personal experience, he discussed how overspending in the waters surrounding Vancouver, a lack of environmental stewardship and intergenerational irresponsibility have contributed to damaging wildlife and ecosystems of that area—all for the sake of commercialism.

Suzuki did pose a few solutions to the alarming environmental problems he discussed, including challenging Canadians to pursue the David Suzuki Foundation's "Nature Challenge"—a list of ten simple ways Canadians can help conserve the environment while improving their quality of life.

"We can achieve sustainability within a generation," Suzuki said. "But it must be driven into the conscious of the business, the government, and the people."

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[www.su.ualberta.ca/work/sujobs](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/work/sujobs)

# Environmental activist Linda Duncan seeks election under NDP partisanship

DUNCAN\* CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Also, we need an overhaul of the student loan program. Many students now can't afford to even consider going to university, let alone hang in. I know a lot of them have to back out for a few years because they need to make money, and sometimes they don't get back there. ... One other thing for students is ... the NDP for quite some time has been trying to improve the bankruptcy provisions for students. Most students come out of university now with massive debts, and we've recommended that the bankruptcy legislation be amended so that students can qualify for bankruptcy protection within two years, not within ten years. There's no reason why we should be penalizing students or other money anybody borrows.

Are there any aspects of your party's platform that you disagree with or are unsure of?

Absolutely not. The only area where I may tweak it, and I'm content with it right now, but because I am an environmental lawyer and I've been a public interest advocate for 30 years, I want to jump in and help develop the environment platform. And so that's one area where I look forward to contributing, as well as justice issues and so forth. I don't have any problems with what the platform says in any area, but there are certain areas where I would love to be on the ground floor and developing. The other one would be the foreign aid, but I'm completely with keeping with what our platform is, which is to reduce child poverty in Canada and to reduce world poverty. I don't have any objections.

What, if any, reforms need to be made to Canada's government structure (such as electoral or senate reform)?

I won't repeat what I said before, but

I think it's really absolutely critical that we reform government in a way that it becomes much more participatory democracy, not the old-fashioned representative democracy. I credit the reforms that have gone before at the federal level. Unlike Ralph Klein's government, where he only allows Conservative members to sit the legislative committees, at least at the federal level the opposition can participate. I think that's something for people to think about when they vote. Voting in a member of the opposition is not a useless vote. Members of the opposition are very active at committee level. ... Unfortunately, we're in the hinterland here, a long distance from Ottawa, and most of the media coverage is simply what goes on in the houses of Parliament, which in many cases is incredibly juvenile behaviour by a bunch of guys in suits. The real work of Parliament, in many cases, is outside of that, and it's at the committee level. It's also in the level of those MPs that actually reach out to the constituents and reach out to a broader base of Canadians on big policy issues. And I have 30 years experience doing that.

Government ethics has been a major issue in this campaign. What do you think needs to be done to reassure voters of their government's integrity?

A whole rash of reforms need to come through. First, we need to start electing people who already have high ethical standards and have that kind of a reputation in the community. I stand behind the seven-point package that Ed Broadbent tabled in the Parliament this past fall. We were the first ones to come forward with an overall package to reform government, clean it up and make it more accountable. ... Essentially, it deals with everything from implementing proportional representation to getting stricter legally binding controls

on paid lobbyists. Our government should be run by those people that we elect in consultation with us, not this third way, which is paid lobbyists. ... We also believe that people shouldn't be crossing the floor, like the Belinda Stronach incident. She's not the only incident; it has happened with lots of other parties. People have a right to know who's going to be representing them—for good or for bad the electorate has spoken. So, if people want to switch alliances, we say that they should stand down and go for a by-election. And we want much stronger whistleblower protection. I would expand on that and say, yes, we need to protect employees in governments and in corporations who are willing to come forward and speak out when the laws are being broken or inappropriate expenditures and so forth, but I think that ... the onus should also be on those institutions in government and private enterprise to be properly reporting, and there should be very, very strict enforcement and heavy-duty penalties.

The national campaign has taken a decidedly negative turn in recent days. How do you feel about that, and how do you think the local campaign has compared?

You know what I'm fed up with? I'm fed up with the national media. Let's hear about the candidates that are running across Canada. Our governments are more than three or four leaders. I'm more upset about that than the so-called negative ads. We all knew they were coming, and the Conservatives are just whiners. They're whining about one negative ad on them. Look at the kind of stuff that they're doing. Remember their campaign about Jean Chrétien that he had a funny face? And it's just tiresome. I think the media should just ignore them. Ignore the whining, and let's just cover the positive things that are going on in the community.

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# Green Party's Wakefield stresses need for strong Canadian military

Part of a series of Q&As with the candidates for Member of Parliament in Edmonton–Strathcona in the upcoming election

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Senior News Editor

A past president of the Alberta Chapter of the Green Party, this election, Cameron Wakefield is running for the party in the Edmonton–Strathcona riding. Wakefield is a native of Red Deer and alumnus of McGill University. In 2004, he came in fourth of six candidates with 3146 votes (6.49 per cent).

What do you consider the three most important issues in this campaign?

Violence in our cities and in our streets, mixed with gun control, is number one. Healthcare is always an important issue, and that, I think, ranks up there in the top three. Third has been responsible, accountable government. Canadians want to be able to trust their federal government, and know that their tax dollars are being spent on programs for Canadians and things to benefit the country, not scandals.

While postsecondary education is primarily a provincial responsibility, the federal government has long had a role as well. What do you think Ottawa's role should be in this area?

The role of Ottawa has been to fund postsecondary education, largely, and the provinces have the ability to choose how the money's going to be spent. Now, postsecondary education is in a complete crisis right now. I know a lot of students who are working full time during their education; that's a dilution of their quality of education, and that's unacceptable. A number of things should be done. I realize that

it's important to balance the budget—and it is—however, tuition rates have to come down; \$5000 is way too high. The ceilings on student loans should be raised, so students can qualify for more, and there should be a longer interest-free period following graduation, so students have a chance of paying back some of their loan before they start paying interest on that.

Are there any aspects of your party's platform that you disagree with or are unsure of?

I might be a little bit more in favour of a strong military than many of my colleagues. I think that with global warming opening up the northern passage, we have to patrol it and monitor it. It's not right that the Americans should be appearing up there as frequently as they are now. We need to replace our aging Sea King helicopters, and we have to strengthen our peacekeeping, although they've been doing an excellent job with what they have. I think there's a strong case for strengthening our military right now. That might not be in accordance with everyone in the Green Party.

What, if any, reforms need to be made to Canada's government structure (such as electoral or senate reform)?

I think we need to bring in proportional representation. I'm worried that many voters feel their votes don't count for anything, and their voices aren't being heard. Certainly, Bill C-24 allowed for \$1.75 [per vote per year] in funding to be given to every party that

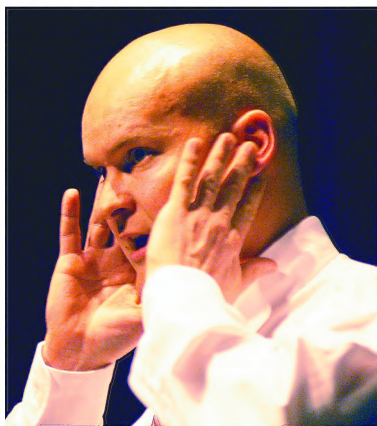
surpasses two per cent of the popular vote nationally, has been a step in the right direction. We need to go further; we need to bring in proportional representation. I think people will again truly be engaged in their own political process once they know that their vote counts, and it counts for the candidate of their choice. Right now, with the first-past-the-post system, many feel their votes are wasted, and they end up voting strategically, which doesn't produce the government that people really want.

Government ethics has been a major issue in this campaign. What do you think needs to be done to reassure voters of their government's integrity?

A lot of things are already being done. The whistleblower legislation is a step in the right direction. I think the Ed Broadbent ethics package is an excellent step in the right direction, as well. The Green Party doesn't argue with other parties if we feel that they're doing the right thing, and that's the case for this. Those two initiatives, especially, are definitely the right way to go. And I don't have a lot to add to that. I think they responded to the problems of government quite well.

The national campaign has taken a decidedly negative turn in recent days. How do you feel about that, and how do you think the local campaign has compared?

The local campaign has been very, very amicable. Whenever I go to debates or forums with my counterparts from other parties, we seem to get along



KATE TWEDDE

IT AIN'T EASY BEING GREEN Cameron Wakefield talks about change.

quite well. That's different from the 2004 election; there was a little bit more rubbing between candidates in the debates. The only negative turn that the election took, in my opinion, was really when that Liberal ad came out talking about Stephen Harper and the military. I think after that came and went, the negativity in the current campaign largely evaporated. I think we're seeing less than the average election in terms of negativity, and

I'm quite happy about that. Canadians don't want to hear that. What people want to know is what issues we stand for; what issues do the parties represent? People don't want to know what other parties are doing wrong; people want to know what your party thinks should be done to fix the problems. That's why the Green Party avoids negative campaigning like the plague. We don't go there; I think it's a bad election strategy.

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# Divorce might really be best for the kids

U of A researcher challenges myth that divorce causes children mental harm

HANNA NASH  
News Writer

A study published last month by the University of Alberta suggests that the modern-day adage "staying together for the kids" may actually cause children more harm than anything else.

The study found children raised by parents with marital problems exhibited higher levels of depression and antisocial behaviour before the divorce. After the unhappy couple split, children grew away from these unhealthy tendencies and eventually seemed happier in the so-called broken home. However, this tendency was only observed in families that were deemed highly dysfunctional.

"What it also found in terms of antisocial behaviour, was that for those kids who were living in highly dysfunctional families, the parental divorce was actually a good thing," said Dr Lisa Strohstein, researcher in the study and U of A sociologist.

Parents were asked to report on a variety of factors from the extent to which family members get along and confided in one another to how often they fought.

"A family that is highly dysfunctional obviously has a lot of conflict and is not getting along. These are things that, as you would expect, have harmful effects on child mental health," added Strohstein.

The ongoing study, conducted



UNHAPPY MARRIAGE? TAKE OFF THE RING Dr Lisa Strohstein talks divorce.

by Statistics Canada, examined data collected between 1994 and 1998. It looked at 17 000 children across Canada between the ages of four and seven who were living with both of their biological parents.

Strohstein hopes that this research will give new—perhaps less negative—insight into the effects of divorce on a child's mental health.

"I think that this research really challenges the myth that parental divorce is necessarily bad," said Strohstein.

With this study scheduled to con-

tinue for another ten years, Strohstein also hopes to dispel the myth that parents lose the ability to parent while they are going through a divorce.

"Parents understand that their kids are going through an adjustment. They are sensitive and they're not losing their parenting abilities. It's not a skill that you forget or lose," said Strohstein.

Strohstein's future research will also look at the effects of divorce as children grow up, and how marital satisfaction may determine a child's mental health, whether a divorce occurs or not.

# SU targets gov't to increase funding

TUITION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While Lettner admits there's little chance of convincing his fellow BoG members to reject the proposed tuition increase, he said he's confident that the SU and the University will work together to convince the government of the need for increased funding.

"What we want to make happen is to see the BoG, and therefore the University, commit with the students to solving the tuition problem that we're seeing, addressing affordability, and addressing the quality of the learning experience," he said. "We feel that there's an appetite to address that from the BoG."

Lettner did stress, though, that tomorrow's decision is still important, as the increase in tuition could still

lead to students seeing a sudden bump in the fees they pay if the government decides to end the freeze.

"What we're looking at this year is a double bump. Well, next year so we look at a triple bump? Because tuition still goes up on the books."

SU PRESIDENT GRAHAM LETTNER

"It's odd, because tuition goes up, but our fees don't go up. But the fact

that tuition still has to go up is still indicative that there's not proper funding," said Lettner. "What we're looking at this year is a double bump. Well, next year so we look at a triple bump? Because tuition still goes up on the books. As soon as the rebate ceases to come from the provincial government, students get to make up the shortfall once again."

But Lettner said that since the province is the ultimate source of most postsecondary funding, it's appropriate to focus the SU's attention on it, rather than the BoG.

"You need to focus your attention in the right direction, and we think the right direction is the provincial government, and we can probably make some positive gains."

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## Elections Canada prohibits residence voting stations at University of Toronto

Complaints questioning their legality prompt cancellation of voting stations

SARAH BARMACK  
TheVarsity

TORONTO (CUP)—U of T students and members of student government were shocked to learn last weekend that students would no longer be able to vote on campus.

Special voting stations were planned by the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) to allow students living in residence to vote in or near their own buildings. But Elections Canada nixed the stations in a phone call to SAC Saturday night, citing legal issues.

"We are shocked and angered by the irresponsibility and unprofessionalism of Elections Canada," said SAC President Paul Bretscher in a statement. "There are 4000 students living in residence who were expecting to be able to cast their ballot [Sunday]. Causing this kind of confusion for first-time voters will have a terrible impact on youth voting."

Liberal Tony Ianno's campaign first expressed concerns about the legality of the special stations. Ianno is running for re-election in Trinity-Spadina, the larger of two ridings at U of T's St. George campus.

There is some feeling in the riding that NDP candidate Olivia Chow stands to gain from higher student turnout, as there is sizeable NDP support on campus. In the last election, held after

elections returned home in the spring, she lost by only about 800 votes.

Tom Allison, campaign manager for Ianno, confirmed a party lawyer called Elections Canada on Friday to raise the possibility that the special stations were not legal. He said that Elections Canada was not aware of the stations, and decided to cancel them.

"There are no provisions in [elections law] for [this special voting] to take place," he said. "We only asked the question, 'Is this legal?' And Elections Canada said, 'No.'"

SAC arranged the special vote with the returning officer for Trinity-Spadina, Nick Ranieri. But Allison explained that they were kept in the dark about the special vote, and that at its highest level, Elections Canada in Ottawa was also unaware of it.

"We only heard this was happening when we saw posters put up by SAC about the stations," said Allison. "I spoke to [Conservative candidate] Sam Goldstein's campaign office and I can tell you, they didn't know either."

"It strikes me that there was a secret deal made here between SAC and Elections Canada," he said.

In fact, a fax sent to SAC from Olivia Chow's campaign headquarters shows that both her office and Elections Canada knew about the special stations, the fax, supplied by SAC, was sent to Chow's campaign from

Elections Canada last Wednesday, listing the addresses where each special poll was to be located on campus.

Derrick Barnes, director of operations of Elections Canada, complained about the accountability of residence voters lists last week. In return, SAC drew up lists from the deans of each college and sent them to Barnes.

"We've been working on this for weeks. It's not a particularly big secret," said Bretscher.

Although this is first time SAC has had on-campus voting in a federal election, it has done so for provincial elections in the past.

"I've never been able to vote before, so this election is a big deal for me. Now I have no idea what I'm supposed to do," said first-year residence student Jonathan Dickson, who was planning to cast his first ballot on Sunday.

Elections Canada went through the residences from Sunday until Tuesday, registering students to vote.

SAC is currently attempting to set up a polling station on campus for election day, but according to Bretscher, this will still be inadequate.

"Policy states that there must be one polling station for every 250–350 livable units. That means we should have ten to 16 polls," he said. "This is either gross incompetence on Election Canada's part, or it's political interference."

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Your continued feedback is welcome as system improvements and new features are added in the months ahead. We invite you to keep working with us as we strive to improve our services. With your help, we'll make it easier for Alberta students to apply for and receive financial assistance.

  
Honourable Dave Hancock, Q.C.  
Minister of Advanced Education

  
Dr. Doug Nelson  
Chair, Students Finance Board

Alberta

## UBC's University Act prevents international student from running in student elections

PAUL EVANS  
TheUmsury

VANCOUVER (CUP)—A University of British Columbia student's name will not appear on the ballot for the school's Board of Governors (BoG) student representative position after officials rejected his nomination on Monday.

Lytle McMahon, an American citizen, put forward his nomination for the BoG representative despite a clause in the provincial University Act stating that only a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant may fill the position.

"Although I'm not entitled to sit in the position, I should still be allowed to be nominated for it," he said. "I should be allowed to demonstrate a political point through what means have been granted to me."

By running for the position, McMahon hoped to draw attention to the issue of international students being prohibited from sitting on the BoG.

"It really matters a lot to me, and it may really matter to the eleven per

cent of campus who are international students," explained McMahon.

Christopher Eaton, academic governance officer for Enrollment Services, said that it would be against the spirit of the University Act to allow McMahon to run for the BoG position.

"Those people who are not eligible to serve on the Board of Governors are not eligible to run for election to the Board of Governors," he said.

"We should enforce it when they're nominated for the board because voters who cast ballots in that election might be voting for a candidate who could never assume office, and therefore they would not actually be casting a vote that would have an effect on the election," said Eaton.

A similar situation occurred at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in 2004, when nine international students attempted to get themselves nominated for BoG student representative positions.

According to Allison Watt, director of the University Secretariat at SFU, the students' applications were not accepted

on account of the University Act.

Spencer Keys, president of the Alma Mater Society (AMS), UBC's student government, said Eaton's ruling did not surprise him.

"I'd say that the problem is certainly not with the University's application of a rule, but with the actual rule itself," he said. "The AMS is quite clearly on the record that international students should be able to run for positions on the Board of Governors."

Keys explained that the AMS and several other student societies in British Columbia sent a letter to the Ministry of Advanced Education looking to have the provincial legislature change the University Act to allow international students to be able to sit on the BoG.

McMahon now has the option of appealing the decision, and if he chooses to, it may even end up before the provincial courts. McMahon said he is unsure if he will go ahead with an appeal, however.

"I'm just looking to make a point about it all," he said.

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# OPINION

opinion@gatewayualberta.ca • Thursday, 19 January, 2006

## Environment the only issue that matters

REMARKABLY, IN SPITE OF the abnormally warm temperatures across the country, the thawing of Arctic permafrost and the highly publicized damage caused by Hurricane Katrina, our political leaders have been almost entirely silent on the changes to our climate and environment. Instead, they've spoken and fought at length on issues such as child care allowances, handgun bans and doctor shortages—issues that are, in comparison, almost comically insignificant.

There is no subject—not healthcare, not education, not corruption, not the open murder of Canadian citizens in our very streets—that is even remotely as important as the integrity of our environment. The reason that this is true is so simple that it's rarely explicitly stated: absolutely everything in our civilization depends upon a stable environment. If it becomes unsupportive or unpredictable, then our government, our economy and our society will collapse—and with them, the healthcare, educational system and thriving economy we mistakenly believe are of primary importance.

Our economy, delicately balanced by our governments, and on which our luxuries, security and happiness are largely reliant, depends fundamentally on an environment that is predictable and fertile enough to produce large quantities of food for consumption and resources for trade. If our weather becomes hostile or erratic, both farming and production will be hugely affected, with disastrous results for our population, quality of life and industry.

As an example of this, we need look no further than last year's Hurricane Katrina. While it is inaccurate to say that Hurricane Katrina was caused by global warming, it's perfectly reasonable to say that, with the warming of the Earth's surface and atmosphere, hurricanes like Katrina will occur more often. The total cost of Katrina, in property damage, paid compensation, clean-up and reconstruction will likely be well over \$400 billion. This is the cost of one hurricane on one city—albeit one predisposed to disaster because of its low elevation. Yet the effects of climate change, as our scientists and experts struggle to inform us, will not be limited to more and more damaging hurricanes.

As temperatures rise, the world's icecaps will melt, spilling vast quantities of fresh water into the oceans. This will not only change the composition of the oceans and their currents—likely with damaging effects on the fishing industry—but will also submerge or periodically flood low-lying coastal areas. The cost will be Katrina hundreds of times over. As precipitation patterns change over land, a great deal of our most fertile farmland will become swamped or scorched, resulting in widespread crop failure. The composition of our forests will likely change, and wildfires are predicted to become more common and more severe—again with disastrous consequences for our industries. An unforeseen consequence of global warming is the thawing of northern permafrost, and with it a massive release of carbon dioxide, which will perhaps serve to accelerate warming still further. Also, because permafrost acts as a foundation for all northern buildings, as it thaws and softens the damage to home and buildings will be immense.

It must always be remembered that stability is what is required for a thriving economy and civilization. Humans are ingenious, and it is possible that, in time, perhaps, we will adapt to a changed Earth. But the important point—the most important point—is that the costs incurred in the meantime will overwhelm all economic gains we have made in the past. That our politicians are willfully neglecting these conclusions to prattle on about the colossal harms of handguns or corruption is obscene.

Our country and our world are on the cusp of major change. Our politicians, our leaders, should be those with the vision and wisdom to see the future, and the courage to prepare for it. That this fundamental issue has been so ignored proves that they possess neither.

TIM PEPPIN  
Opinion Editor



## LETTERS

### CAB defiantly worsens quality of music

Dear Aramark,

I wrote you before complaining about the shitty rap you played in CAB, stating that anything else would be better, and I have to commend you—you called my bluff. You have truly succeeded in finding shittier, more annoying music.

I'm not sure whether you got musical advice from the smelly deaf guy who sells yellow cards for a living, or simply from a mental patient who calls himself Jesus in between bouts of eating his own feces, but you've trumped any and all expectations I ever had of what quantifies terrible music.

I didn't realize that Aramark had invested in satellite radio. You seem to have picked up the feed they play for the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay (I know, I know, you don't torture, you just coerce. Whether it is that weird day where you blared generic techno and I forgot to bring some ecstasy, the honky-tonk country, or the shitty new wave music that should have died with the '80s, you keep coming up with new and inventive ways to commit musical rape of my ears.

Please, for the love of god, just stop playing music all together. I can't afford to keep buying cottonballs to absorb the blood that flows from my ears at a steady rate after spending a lunch break in CAB. Even the deaf guy with the cards is starting to think you took this too far.

CONAL PIERSE  
Science III

### Speed dating at the Plant a great idea

While reading Eric Slater's humorous letter in the 17 January Gateway ("Speed dating in the PowerPlant solution to dating, money woes"), I contemplated how useful just such an idea might be. In the Faculty of Elementary Education I'm lucky to

get the one "token male" in each of my classes. For you optimists out there, trust me, the "token male" is either a guy married with kids or has a girlfriend.

I'm sure there are those of you yelling, "No! You're still young! You don't have to reduce yourself to speed dating!" I encourage you to take another look at this whole possibility. Although I'm not exactly sure how speed dating works and am unlikely to sign up, it sounds tailor-made to campus life. We're all busy, stressed-out students who, for the most part, isolate ourselves within our faculties. The PowerPlant is on campus, and speed dating could be fit into any hectic university student's schedule. Or, if you're bored, it could be a funny way to spend an evening.

It's also impressive that the person in charge of speed dating in the PowerPlant has "all the best personal qualities of Cupid and Donald Trump (sans haircut)." Could you find better qualifications? I suggest this catchy slogan: "Power your way into the '06 dating scene."

Having a Campus Food Bank donation for the registration fee is a great idea, although maybe not so Donald Trump-ish. Who'd pass up the opportunity to support the food bank? It's all too true that we can't eat our textbooks.

So I'll be at the PowerPlant with my elementary education friends, holding my can of chicken noodle soup and peeking around the corner to see if anyone else showed up! See you there.

ASHLEY DERMOV  
Education IV

### Go back to Oceania, Lihwal

Regarding Scott Lihwal's 12 January piece ("The English language could be a lot better"). What year do you live in? Albeit I've posed a rhetorical question, but one that requests an answer from Mr Lihwal who, whether satirically or not, suggested a reduction of the English vocabulary.

First, his removal of "silent letters" doesn't account for one of the few

rules of the language, since an "e" at the end of "pluralize" forces the "t" to be long instead of short.

Second, a diminution of the English language reduces the abilities from many a lyrical artist. Would Gilbert & Sullivan be so renowned if Mr Lihwal had his way? Furthermore, a language eventually evolves into local dialects due to environments, heritage, etc. Dissent to the proposed restrictive language is for shizzle, partner, eh?

Finally, his rules are, at the very best, a blatant bastardization of George Orwell's societal commentary, to the point of Scott being more defamatory than I currently am. Conclusively, Mr Lihwal is no "modern major general," and rather than expand his mind in college for the future, he remains stubbornly entrenched in a skewed 1984.

PAUL CARTLEDGE  
Grad Student III

### Prusakowski's UASUS article entirely off

Upon reading Ross Prusakowski's 17 January "opinion" article ("The U of A Science Undergrad Society and Business Students' Ass'n don't deserve fees"), I was appalled.

When Mr Prusakowski, an arts student, begins his article on a science faculty association with statements like, "Science is the largest faculty," when, in fact, his own is—by several hundred students—I'm disappointed. When Mr Prusakowski makes reference to UASUS' Chief Returning Officer, which doesn't exist and never has, my disappointment turns to sympathy. Dr Seuss did better research than Ross, but at least his fictional stories don't masquerade as quality articles.

I'll assume we were referring to our Faculty Association Deputy Returning Officer, Mr Prusakowski, not our GRO. But upon further inspection, it's not just the terminology that's flawed. Mr Prusakowski claims that because the UASUS president can appoint UASUS' FADRO, they can play "fast and loose" in their elections. In actual fact, the appointment is the duty of the

entire executive, and in the event that one of the executive members plans to run for re-election, they are excluded from the process. Should we spend more money we don't have running an election to defeat a system that works fine, and always has?

Speaking further on this, all aspects of the election (except the actual voting by constituents) is witnessed by both non-partisan witnesses and the candidates themselves. The ballot boxes are sealed until all aforementioned parties are present. But you know this, because you read our brief and concise procedural manual on our electoral process.

Mr Prusakowski then proceeds to elucidate the findings of his astute study of UASUS with, "UASUS has no services, little direct contact with the students they strive to represent..." Meanwhile, UASUS continues to offer 22 academic or social services, from ski trips to tutor lists and scholarship info. UASUS also employs over 70 volunteers, and fills 31 full-time coordinator positions. The fact that many students in Science are oblivious of this is one of the biggest reasons the fee is in order.

Furthermore, Mr Prusakowski, don't compare a \$2 fee focused directly on the improvement of the quality of education for students in the Faculty of Science with a tuition increase of several hundred dollars that affects the entire institution.

Mr Prusakowski, in future, I would much rather educate you on UASUS before you write articles than after.

GREG GERMAN  
UASUS President

*Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gatewayualberta.ca.*

*The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature.*

*Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.*



# Point: The Charter, not the banker, should decide who gets to vote

Kendrick, you trash-jockey, going to jail doesn't mean you aren't a citizen



SCOTT  
LILWALL

Point

In 2002, the Supreme Court of Canada overturned the section of the Canadian Elections Act that prevented federal inmates from voting in national elections—effectively giving every Canadian over 18 an equal chance to totally ignore this right. Since then, it's become a much-debated topic, especially come election time. The question is simple: does being placed in cell block make one unfit to use the ballot box?

The answer should be just as simple, Mike: no. There are lots of reasons to restrict the voting rights of inmates: a false sense of moral outrage; good-old-fashioned spite; winning second place in the beauty contest. Unfortunately, what we have a deficit of is good reasons.

Whose rights are we looking to trample? Well, a significant number of provincial inmates are imprisoned for such heinous crimes as defecating

on fines. How dare those who can't afford to pay their parking tickets expect to still be able to have a say in the future of their country? They're lucky that we aren't dusting off the iron maiden, and should be damned grateful for it. Besides, we don't really want the poor voting, do we? I mean, they're poor. Blocking the inmate vote is just a way of sneaking this so-called "oppression" past those damn hippies, always talking about "equal treatment for the poor," and "basic human rights." Only those with a hotel on Boardwalk should have a say in how the country runs.

But let's inconveniently skip over the provincial inmates, and go right to the federal system. Anyone in a federal prison is serving more than two years—meaning they've been found guilty of more serious crimes. Even so, these people are still Canadian citizens, and as such, are guaranteed the right to vote under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. There's a focus in the justice system on rehabilitation and restoration, two principles that have made the Canadian justice approach one of the most respected systems in the world.

But how can we expect inmates to restore severed contacts with the

community, when that same community goes to lengths to exclude them? And how can we possibly expect an inmate to place value in obeying the law when we're eager to violate those very laws, set out in the Charter, to keep them distanced from society? We're all playing the game by the same rulebook.

Finally, the inclusion of cable television and newspapers in our institutions has put to rest the idea of the inmates being too uninformed to make a proper electoral decision. The spread of mass media has made those in jail just as knowledgeable as those just visiting. Besides, if "intelligent and informed" was a requirement for voting, we could probably get all 400 eligible voters through the polls in one afternoon. And I honestly wouldn't hold out much hope for our own chances at making the cut, Mike.

Voting is supposed to be a right, not a privilege. We can't just say that inmates shouldn't be able to vote just because they're inmates. We need actual logic and reasons before we attempt to play around with one of the cornerstones of our democratic system. "Go Directly to Jail" shouldn't be a walk in the Park Place, but it also shouldn't mean that you're completely out of the game.

## Counterpoint: Go directly to jail. Do not collect \$200. Do not try to vote.

Lilwall, you soft-hearted sucker, breaking the laws means you forfeit rights



MIKE  
KENDRICK

Counterpoint

Alright Lilwall, it's time for you to pack up your little convict-lover bandwagon and move in with Susan Sarandon. If you want to get cuddly with the inmates on political issues, by all means, be my guest. Just don't come crying to me when they rip out your tear ducts and feed them to you through your ass so that you can't even come crying to me in the first place.

You see, there's this great concept called the penal system. In a given society, when an individual of that society deviates from the norms and conventions of its social structure, and, say, commits a crime, he or she has demonstrated, through his or her actions, a desire to no longer participate in society's rules. It's like that time we made you sit in the corner for trying to pilfer the unsold properties in our Monopoly game. You may have thought you were being crafty at first, but when I had to mortgage my third

beer to pay your requested \$1650 rental charge on Babb's Avenue, I suspected something was amiss.

My point is that prison is designed to punish (fine, "rehabilitate"), not reward criminals. The right to vote is something of a reward to those living in a democratic nation, allowing their voices to be heard. Inmates are isolated from the society until their sentence enables them to rejoin it. In the world of prison, part of that sentence involves revoking the rights that are normally granted to law-abiding citizens as a result of abusing said rights.

While incarcerated, an inmate may not attend a job or a school outside of that prison under normal circumstances. Healthcare isn't an issue, thanks to free in-house medical services. They don't have to pay taxes, or for their basic needs, since food, clothing, shelter and cable TV are all provided. Maybe it's just me, but it seems that issues like taxes, healthcare and employment would be pretty major factors influencing the way someone votes. So why should convicted criminals get this right?

"But Mike!" you shout, "Not all convicts are bloodthirsty murderers and child molesters." And you know, you're right. Does that change the fact that they've broken the law, though?

Inmates in minimum-security institutions and halfway houses may not be as vicious as their anylum counterparts, but likewise, the length and location of their sentences have been shortened accordingly. This doesn't change the fact that they've broken the law. By law, you and I have the right to vote. What kind of country would we be living in if we went around making exceptions for lawbreakers so they could get "equal but special" rights? A backwards, screwy, terrifying country, that's what.

All I'm saying is, I have a feeling that my opinion on the way our province or country should be run is likely to be very different from the opinion of a convicted criminal. Inmates already have far more rights and amenities behind bars, even more than some law-abiding citizens. Thousands of homeless struggle daily to survive, and even citizens around the poverty line get hit pretty hard. I don't see why inmates should be granted—in addition to what they already get—the luxury of deciding who runs my country. That's right, my country, because as far as I'm concerned, convicted lawbreakers aren't active citizens for the period of their sentence. And unlike in our inflated game, Scott, there are no "Get Out of Jail Free" cards in real life.

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# On the dangers and means of avoiding Politically Transmissible Diseases

PTDs are both dangerous and spreading. Learn how to protect yourself



CYRUS  
DASTOURI

Warning! This country is currently infected by politically transmissible diseases (PTDs). If left unchecked, these diseases can induce multiple personality disorders and permanently damage Canadians psychologically. Tests have shown that we are most susceptible during the federal election season. During this time, our environment is bombarded with several nasty bugs that are highly infectious and very hard to eradicate. Usually, our immune systems have been able to keep PTDs in check. However, election season has come early, and it has been found that most immune systems have not been able to recover from last election's assortment of infections.

Recently, attention has been given to the persistence of Liberal Corruption Syndrome. Recently, infected persons develop a kleptomaniac persona. Examples of identifiable symptoms are when an ordinary citizen displays uncharacteristic behaviours such as stealing from the general public, becoming secretive and evasive, and giving out kickbacks to other infected friends.

Last season, a federal inquiry vaccine was prescribed throughout the population and was thought to be widely successful. However, some portions of the population are having relapses and are exhibiting additional traits such as affinities for income trusts and backstabbing their previous friends. The medical community is hoping an RCMP investigation, prescribed in conjunction with the federal inquiry vaccinations, will be successful in wiping out this nasty

rash in the Canadian population.

There has also been an outbreak of separatism in the country. Originally thought to have been eliminated by the 1980 and 1995 Québec Referenda, we have found the bacteria to be running rampant in several segments of the Canadian population. Hot spots include the provinces of Alberta, Newfoundland and Québec. When infected, individuals tend to view their world through self-absorbed eyes, develop an intolerance to Canadian Confederation, protest about how unfairly they are always treated and develop a habit of threatening to leave the country in order to get what they want.

**Usually, our immune systems have been able to keep PTDs in check. However, election season has come early, and it has been found that most immune systems have not been able to recover from last election's assortment of infections.**

Scientists are trying to develop a permanent treatment for this problem, but have had limited success. Current experts suggest that moderate doses of Canadian patriotism and large sums of federal money help to repress some symptoms. However, caution must be used, as there have been side-effects to this treatment resulting in the infection spreading still further. Regardless, people are encouraged to keep a "low Canadian profile" wherever Ottawa is mentioned and people are seen to foam at the mouth.

Scientists are also sounding the alarm about the second variant of the Harper Virus. This new and improved bug has mutated to avoid detection by our immune systems. Doctors are concerned because this new virus is more dangerous than the first as it specifically targets those whose immune system is tired from constantly fighting the Liberal Corruption Syndrome.

The virus causes religious fundamentalism, aggressive behaviour towards minorities, spending large amounts of public money, and propaganda through the utilization of negative television and radio ads. The detection of this virus has been very difficult for scientists; some of the key identifying symptoms mentioned are repressed during the election and will resurface in their hosts when the season is over. Any persons who avoid discussion about gay marriage, abortions or any other controversial issue are thought to be infected with this virus and should be considered Republican and dangerous.

As we are in the final week of this early election season, Canadians are reminded to be vigilant in the efforts to fight these infections. You should try to get plenty of rest, drink plenty of common sense, eat your reason for breakfast, and do not forget to take your anti-rhetoric vitamins. Everyone is encouraged to exercise democratically, as the voting technique has been proven to help protect against these infections and more. Canadians are also encouraged to avoid the reactionary voting techniques that are currently circulating around the market. These knock-offs are only marginally effective in the short term and leave people more vulnerable to other infections. New diseases are a fact of political life, and it is very important to take the time to vote properly in order to ensure long-term protection. After all, no one wants to sleep with someone infected with PTDs.

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Main Floor SUB

# True confessions of a PC-loving sex pervert—playing for the other side



PAUL  
OWEN

The last contact I had with a Macintosh came over a decade ago. Five of my closest friends and I were working our way cross-country to the promised lands in the West. Our wagon tipped a couple times, and we lost some clothes, and, well, Ben—but he was fifth in the cart anyways and was just eating too much food. I tried hunting, and even shot a great buffalo, but I could only carry 100 pounds back and never thought to make a second trip for more. Of course, things didn't get really bad until the water died. Then I died of fucking dysentery. The only Apple I've touched since came from the Supermarket.

Of course, this had a lot to do with the advent of Windows 95, which made doing computer things unbelievably easy for a nine-year-old who only wanted to play games and trick girls into cybersex by pretending he was 16. But the Windows operating system and the Intel Pentium processors were just so fast and simple that it was hard to turn them down. Frankly, while growing up, I wanted nothing to do with Apple computers.

Things started to change when the iRevolution started. The iMacs looked so sweet in their all-in-one package with the monitor and the computer

"The iMacs looked so sweet in their all-in-one package with the monitor and the computer all together. They came in funky colours; not just different shades of off-white and grey and black, but in green and orange and fluorescent pink, and they were translucent, so you could see what was going on inside."

all together. They came in funky colours; not just different shades of off-white and grey and black, but in green and orange and fluorescent pink, and they were translucent, so you could see what was going on inside. It even came at the right time, as Microsoft was exposed as a giant computer monopoly and under investigation for unfair retail practices. The iMac was the opposite of everything Microsoft stood for. It was "hip," but it still couldn't compete with the power and speed of the Intel/Pentium processors.

Macs instead became the artsy computers. From photo-editing software to programs for rendering animation or drawing, Mac products became the artistic web dream—even the Gateway uses Macs to layout the paper. Of course, aside from a terrific star-wipe when editing my homemade porn movies, this really didn't have anything to offer me, and so I stuck with the Intels. Dude, I even got a fucking Dell.

Of course, with the iPod, Apple has branched out and started working with PC users, so I guess their latest collaboration shouldn't be a big surprise. Mac has started putting Intel Core Duo processors in iMacs and

MacBooks, resulting in significantly faster computers. And I want one.

I'm not saying that an Apple-Intel joint project is the best thing since sliced bread, but I have been waking up every night with the sheets stuck to me after dreaming of a brand new, Intel-powered MacBook in my lap and *World of Warcraft* blazing across my screen, not even caring that my PS2 has been annexed by my girlfriend for *Crazy Taxi* purposes because I'm too busy being online bitching about laggers and haxors to care. I see myself starting the next great web comic and laying out my own personal newsletters to all my friends, simply because I have the software to do so. I even dream of getting an Apple logo tattooed on my ass, right next to the one that says, "I think we're related."

For years I've been a stalwart champion against the Steve Jobs invasion. I've almost single-handedly financed Paul Allen's purchase of the Portland Trailblazers and I've paid for numerous high-class hookers to visit Bill Gates' Redwater mansion. I've been a PC-ophile all my life, but I can no longer resist the urge. It may cost me \$3000 to do it, but I will have my star-wiped porn.



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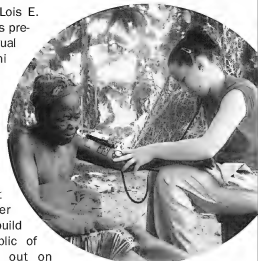


## Celebrating Future U of A Alumni

The first-ever Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole Student Spirit Award was presented to **Celeste Taylor** at the annual University of Alberta Alumni Recognition Awards on Sept. 29, 2005. Taylor, a fourth-year student who is studying animal sciences, was applauded for good grades and her contributions to the betterment of the local community and beyond.

An avid volunteer, Taylor spent two months this past summer helping medical missionaries build a hospital in Impfondo, Republic of Congo, which included going out on house calls with a nurse. During the school year, Celeste helps out at the Canadian Blood Services and the Capilano Christian Assembly.

Taylor has plans to attend medical school. She says the award, valued at \$7,500, will help pay for a large portion of her tuition.



"It's really exciting to have an institution support you in your academic and non-academic endeavors."  
—Celeste Taylor



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For more information visit [www.ualberta.ca/alumni](http://www.ualberta.ca/alumni) or contact the office at 492-3224 or 1-800-661-2593. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2006.



# Andrew Parker: cleared for takeoff



"There goes the photo shoot."

Those were the words that I said to *Gateway* photo editor Matt Frehner a week ago when we went to the Main Gym to get the pictures of Andrew Parker that you're looking at right now.

We walked into the gym as the Bears were finishing up their practice on Tuesday. I was hoping that Bears head coach Don Horwood would take it a little easy on his guys, because I wanted Parker to be relatively fresh, so he could give us some quality material for the photo shoot.

Six hard running drills later, Parker was vomiting into a garbage can while his teammates were sprawled across the court, completely exhausted. One by one, they scraped themselves off the floor and emptied out.

"Give me a few minutes, practice was rough," he said. He collected himself, got his headband and a ball, then put on a one-man slam-dunk contest for us. That's Andrew Parker in a nutshell: a player with an energy level that can't be matched, a phenomenal athlete and someone who's surpassing the expectations of everyone around him. Maybe what's gotten Parker the attention and praise that he's drawing this season is that no one puts higher expectations on him than he does.

Parker brushes off vomiting just moments earlier, and passes off the chance to re-schedule in light of how hard the practice was. "It's an everyday thing," he says. "What dunk should I do first?"

He starts off with a few warm-up windmills, then moves on to some long-distance one-handed dunks. Next up, some one- and two-handed dunks off the glass, then a ridiculous 360° two-handed dunk going baseline (think Vince Carter in the 2000 all-star game). Parker does them all with ease, and as good as each dunk looks, he saves his favourite, the between-the-legs dunk, for last.

"Between-the-legs is still my favourite, but I'm starting to fall in love with the between-the-legs 360°. I've done it a bunch of times in warm-ups and people were going crazy," he says.

Warm-ups have quickly gone from the time to hurry to get a drink and something to eat before the game starts to a can't-miss portion of any Bears basketball game. Parker has turned the layup line into a 15-minute highlight reel of what you usually only see every February at the NBA's slam-dunk contest.

"For me personally, I do that just to boost my self-esteem," he says, laughing at the notion that warm-ups are getting increasingly louder at every home game he plays in. "And I do that to show people, cause a lot of cats don't think I can dunk it anymore. I do that to show people I can still do it, but I'm trying to round [my game] out."

As he grew up, Parker has had to play up to the reputations of both of his older brothers, namely his brother Stephen. For the last few years, when people in basketball circles heard the name Parker, especially around the University, the name that came to mind was Stephen, who played for the Bears from 1997/98–2001/02 (check this) and won a national championship with the Bears in his final year with the program. While Andrew's put in work all his life to get to the point he's at now, he's grown up playing in the shadows of a freakishly talented basketball family.

"It's a big family, you know? A big basketball family. My older brother David, he's the one who put us on the real game. He was a streetball legend," Parker says about his basketball mentor, the only Parker brother who didn't play at the

U of A. "[David was] street! All street. He's a north-side legend. We're all north-side legends for something we've done." He pauses. "I won't go too deep into it. Me and Steve were ball, [David] had some other stuff, but it's all good."

The Parkers are cousins to another basketball powerhouse in Edmonton, the Bucknors. Jermaine plays at the University of Richmond and on Canada's senior national team. Parker says he and Jermaine started playing basketball together as kids.

"Me and Jermaine started in grade six, community. That was the first time I've ever played basketball on a team. Me and Jermaine were the worst players there; we were terrible. We averaged two points, and that was Jermaine from the free throw line. I didn't score anything. I just ran around, a little black kid with an afro. Jermaine's doing great things. I couldn't be more proud of him."

Parker polished his skills playing pickup ball as he grew up. To this day, any recognition he's gotten from people has come through his ability on the blacktop, not the hardwood. Case in point: this summer, while at the Hoop-it-Up tournament in Calgary, Parker caught the eye of The Score's Cabbie, and made his way into a segment of *Cabbie on the Street* for a series of dunks he threw down after missing out on the tournament's dunk contest.

"This is how it broke down. I showed up. I seen the guy who won it. He was doing whack dunks. I said to my man, 'Yo Alex, give me the ball right now.' I took my shirt off, I said 'I'm gonna let people know what time it is.' I started doing everything. First dunk: between the legs. Windmill; 360 windmill.

All of a sudden there was five people watching, there was ten people; then there was 100 people. Then everyone was watching and I started going off. I was ready to leave, and I saw Cabbie and he was like, 'Let's interview!' I was like, 'Damn rights let's interview.' Then I just had to rep and say that we showcase the talent we have here. I said, 'I didn't come here to see whack dunks. People want a good show. They want to see the best. They don't want to see paper dunks. So I went out there and Cabbie let me have my airtime. That did a lot for me.'

After pleasing the streetball masses in this way for years, Parker's transition into organized ball is proving to be a tough one. While he excels at the street level, to carry that success over to the University game, Parker needs to play a far less-physical defence.

"He's got a big problem with defensive fouling; he can't stay in the game for more than five or ten minutes," says Horwood. "Sometimes he's so excited, he's slapping at the ball and he's picking up stupid fouls. Even when he's playing well, we have problems keeping him in the game because of his foul trouble."

Parker admits he needs to get his defence under control, but at the same time notes that he feels singled out when he gets on the court.

"Sometimes I feel like I'm being hated on just for being me: for being loud, being athletic, just being aggressive—but maybe that's just how this league is," he says, then explains how he played defence growing up. "You can't let your man score on you, no matter what. It's like animal instinct, just, 'steal that.' It's something I got to work on. I got to work

Feature by Chris O'Leary  
Photos by Matt Frehner  
Illustration by Iris Tse with work by Mike Kendrick



on just getting into this system. It's a big problem, I feel bad that I'm letting my team down in that way, but I'm honestly making big strides to try and end that. Four fouls [in a game], that's me. I can't bullshit. That's me."

While he's catching people's attention this year with his jaw-dropping athleticism and steadily improving game, Parker was expecting to be wearing a Bears jersey last season before an unexpected and serious illness sidelined him.

"They found out I had an irregular heart beat," he recalls. "Oh man, and I had the most severe headaches, they were paralyzing. I couldn't leave my house for a month. I'd stay in the basement and sleep. If I stood up, it'd just make my head hurt and my heart would start racing. But the point to all that is I've never been more sad. I told myself that if I got out of this alive, I got to go to U of A and show people that I can still do this. I'm telling you, going through those medical problems gives you a greater appreciation of life. I don't think I've cried more about anything in the last year, a lot of things happened. Friends of mine have died, and it just makes you want to make good on the wrongs you have against you. That's what this year is. It's not me playing ball; it's my family, everyone, being able to see me succeed."

Before their flight touched down in Arizona this past November, the Bears were expected by most to drop their game to the Arizona State Sun Devils. The standard margin of loss for a CIS team taking on a Division I team from the NCAA is around 30 points; that much is expected. What no one anticipated, however, was the assault that Parker was going to put on the Sun Devils' rims that night. Parker got his first dunk after he stole the ball from ASU point guard Sylvester Seay at the end of the first half. His next four dunks in the game would come on alley-oop lob from his teammates. He finished the game with 17 points and nine rebounds. After the game, ASU coach Rob Evans said that his team hadn't been dunked on like that since Vince Carter played them back when he was at North Carolina.

"That was the best game of my entire life," Parker says. "It reinforced my opinions on basketball and how it should be played. Those guys down there, they play hard, just like me. They play hard, athletic, quick, in your face, tough, and that's the style I like. It let me know that if I wasn't doing well in one league that I could do well anywhere. What [Evans] said about me being like Vince Carter gave me so much confidence."

"It's all about the frame of mind, too. If people say a team is better than us, I want to prove that they ain't shit," he chuckles. "Even the States. Why does everyone think Canada doesn't have to be as good as the States? When I go there, I see these guys, they're good, but why should we give into them just because they're from the States? You got to go out there and represent yourself too, man. That's like north Edmonton. You gotta go out and represent yourself, no matter who's there. You can't be scared; you can never be scared. There's too many other things in life to be scared of than a basketball game. I think a lot of people need to adopt that mentality when they go against so-called high-end competitors," he says.

"I think that game shot [his confidence] through the roof," agrees Horwood. "He came off that and went right to Simon Fraser University and played well there that weekend. Right now, he needs to find a balance of bringing that energy which he needs in order to be at the top of his game, but also being able to control that energy by not getting into the foul trouble that he gets into."

For now, Parker is focusing on rounding out his game and trying to get his fouling habits under control. Like the greats he grew up watching, both on the court and on TV, he knows that this has to come through practice. Parker's work ethic is one of the things that sold Horwood on what had, up to this year, been an unproven player.

"To be honest, I didn't know what to expect [from Parker]. I saw him play when he was at Concordia, and a lot of the times there, he was out of control and making poor decisions. To be brutally honest, I didn't think he could play at this level," Horwood admits.

"Then, [a year later], I got a chance to work with him this summer at my camp and he was working really hard. As soon as the camp ended at 9pm, he was in the gym for another couple of hours just working on his game, and I just got a huge appreciation for his work ethic."

It may be in practice that Parker has looked his best this season. His head narrowly misses the rim as he attempts to grab offensive rebounds, then on defence he'll dive on the floor to steal a pass and somehow he's hanging on the rim after throwing down a one-handed dunk seconds later; he'll push himself to the point that he vomits and be yelling and screaming at his teammates for an entire practice, then pogo stick over point guard Alex Steele's head for another unreal dunk when it's over.

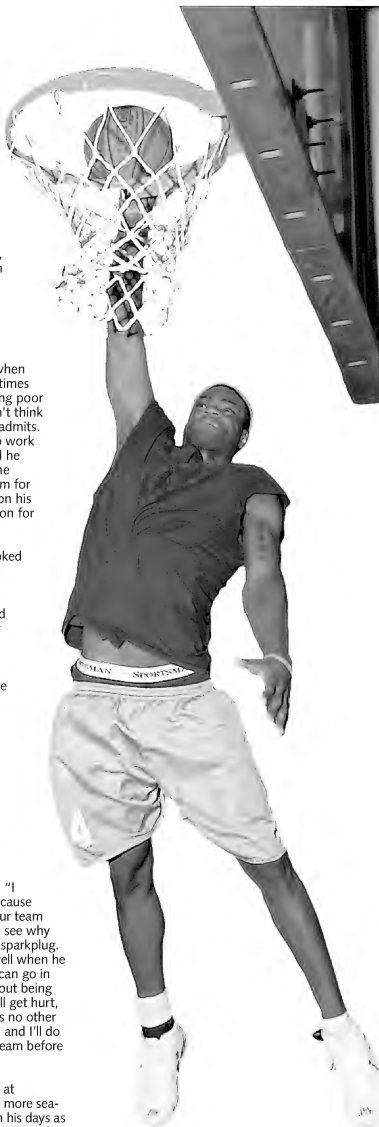
"He's done it before," says Steele. "I wasn't really scared. I know he can do it, so it didn't really phase me too much."

In terms of this season, Parker says he doesn't want to be a part of the Bears' starting lineup.

"That's not what it's about," he insists. "I like coming off the bench right now because it's like, 'Surprise.' Plus, I like the way our team is working now. I like the starters. I can see why I'd come off the bench, it's like I'm the sparkplug. It's like Bobby Jackson, or Latrell Sprewell when he was on the Knicks. Just someone who can go in and get things started. I don't care [about being on the bench]. Sometimes my voice will get hurt, but I don't care. I love this team, there's no other team that I love more, and I love coach and I'll do whatever they need. It's all about the team before me."

Since he used up two years of eligibility at Concordia College, Parker only has two more seasons left with the Bears program. When his days as a Bear come to an end, he hopes it's the start of a professional career.

"When I was sick last year, I told myself, 'If I ever get out of this I'm gonna live my dream.' My dream is to play pro. A lot of people would tell me, 'Oh no, you have to do school,' or, 'This is what life is about.' Man, when you lose everything, I'm telling you, and you get to come back from that, anything is possible. I'm gonna make it there. I have to. I've got to. There's no question. I've got to go there. There are things people never thought I could do. People say, 'Oh, he's just a dunker, oh what is he, he has tattoos,' whatever, whatever. If they knew what happened with me last year, they'd have a lot more respect for me."



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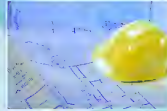
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## Tip #1


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## Tip #2

Check the CaPS website at [www.ualberta.ca/caps](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps) to find out who is attending the Summer Job Fair

## Tip #3

Before applying for a summer job, book an individual consultation at CaPS to have your resume & cover letter critiqued by one of our career advisors

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## Plan your summer work search! Attend a Brown Bag Lunch Seminar, Workshop or Individual Consultation at CaPS

### Brown Bag Lunch Seminars

All Brown Bag Lunch Seminars are FREE and take place in CaPS Resource Centre, 2-100 SUB.

#### Tips for planning your summer vacation

Monday, Jan. 23, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

#### The armchair guide to finding work on the web

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

#### Making career fairs and career forums work for you!

Thursday, Jan. 26, 12:35 - 1:20 p.m.

#### Dear Employer... How do I write better work search letters

Friday, Jan. 27, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

#### Is it all about who you know? Tapping the hidden job market through networking

Monday, Jan. 30, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

#### Get it together: Building a foundation for a successful work search

Tuesday, Jan 31, 12:35 - 1:20 p.m.

### Workshops

Practice your resume writing and interview skills before applying for a summer job! All workshops take place in 4-02 SUB. Pre-registration is required. Pre-register by dropping by our Resource Centre, 2-100 SUB or call 492-4291.

#### 4.0 Resumes for Students in...

##### Engineering

Thursday, Jan. 19, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

##### Education

Saturday, Jan. 21, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

##### Arts and Business

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

##### Science

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

#### Acing the Interview for Students in...

##### Education

Saturday, Jan. 28, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

##### Science

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

##### Arts and Business

Tuesday, Feb 7, 2006, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

##### Engineering

Thursday, Feb 9, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

### Individual Consultations

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## Hoop Bears to face Victoria in Can-West finals rematch



**OUT OF REACH** Bears forward Scott Gordon and the Bears are hoping to leave Victoria in the dust.

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Editor

Vikings are generally an unhappy people, and when you take what they believe to be theirs, their wrath may be the stuff that causes you much stress and missed sleep.

After trouncing the Victoria Vikes 72-54 to claim the Canada West championship last season, the Golden Bears basketball team knows that when they welcome the Vikes back to the Main Gym this weekend for the first time since the Canada West final four, Victoria will be thinking revenge.

"I've never been blown out like that in a championship game before, but I'm sure it stings pretty bad for their veterans," said third-year Bears centre Richard Bates. "They were furious after that game; we blew them out. Even at nationals, they wanted another shot at us. I think [revenge] will play a big factor for them."

Victoria has picked up a couple of smaller victories over the Bears since March, both on and off the court. The Vikes topped the Bears 74-59 in a pre-season tournament in Saskatchewan, behind 22 points from CIS Rookie of the Year candidate Jacob Doerksen, who chose to play for the Vikes over the Bears.

"We recruited him pretty hard last year," admitted Bears head coach Don Horwood. "As a matter of fact, harder than we've recruited anybody. I know he's a good player and we've got to bear down on him. He hurt us when we played them in Saskatchewan. I think it surprised our guys how good he was and how good he could shoot the three."

With the Bears' loss of their premier post presence in Phil Sudol, and the emergence of

Doerksen under the basket for Victoria, Alberta will face a rare challenge this weekend, in that their dominance in the post won't be a given.

"Do we have an advantage inside? I don't know," said Horwood. "That's the big question mark. There's [Bates], you know? He can play great or he can be invisible. If I knew what we were going to see I could tell you what kind of chances we'd have, but certainly he can help us. So can Jeff Stork, so can Scott Gordon."

"Ever since Sudol went out, Horwood's been talking about how we need somebody in the post to be stepping up," Bates noted. "Scott did his thing on Saturday [in a 92-87 loss against Calgary] and I had a lot of rebounds on Friday [Bates went for twelve boards in an 84-65 win against the Dinos], and Horwood mentioned that was a key part of the win, so I've got to just get those rebounds."

A big part of the Bears' last victory over Victoria was their suffocating defence. The Vikes were held to a humiliating 14 first-half points last March, which they weren't able to recuperate from in the game's final 20 minutes. The Bears are hoping they can put together a similar effort this weekend.

"Coach showed us the video of that game the other day to motivate us and show us that we can play defence and not let teams score on us like Calgary did on Saturday," Bates said.

"I know [Victoria] will be psyched to play us because they're going to remember last year's Canada West game," Horwood added. "Their coaches are going to remind them, so it's going to be an exciting weekend. They're going to be ready to battle and I think our guys are going to be ready to battle."

Both games will get underway on Friday and Saturday in the Main Gym at 8:15pm.

## Pandas basketball squad looking to take advantage of home court

CHRIS O'LEARY  
Sports Editor

The 2005/06 season has been full of surprises for the Pandas basketball team. Their overall record of 16-9 has shown that they can be a force in the right conditions. Their 6-8 in-conference record, however, reaffirms just how hard those conditions are to come by for head coach Tris Ariss. Baker's squad in the ultra-competitive Canada West conference. On top of that, it was announced last week that the Pandas won't be Baker's squad next year; Concordia College head coach Scott Edwards will keep Baker's spot on the Pandas' bench warm for her next season.

"It's an educational leave; like a sabbatical. I'm not quite sure what I'll be doing yet. I hope to spend some time with other coaches and see what they're doing," Baker explained. The 14-year Pandas coach will spend the 2006/07 season studying the game and could potentially be involved with a national-team facility for young girls in Hamilton.

While not leaving their head coach around for next season could potentially impact the team, Baker said the team's perspective on this season hasn't changed.

"I think they're always motivated to win. I hope I'm not the determining factor on that," Baker said. "It's not like I'm leaving and this is my last year."

"I think it needs to bring us together as a team," second-year forward Tris Ariss said. "Tris is only taking a year off; she'll be back. I think we've got a lot of potential and she's left Scott a lot to work with. They both have a lot of the same coaching philosophies, so as long as we get it done on defence, we'll be fine."

Getting it done consistently has been a problem for the Pandas this season. While they've managed to get wins against CIS powerhouse Saskatchewan, Winnipeg and Calgary, they haven't been able to string together those wins in what is easily CIS' toughest conference. This

is reflected in the fact that, despite their sub-.500 Canada West record, Alberta sits at seventh in the national rankings.

"We've been on and off," Ariss admitted. "We've had moments of brilliance and moments where we haven't been so brilliant. We have so much potential and we definitely have a chance of making playoffs and going to nationals—we just need to start playing like it."

The Pandas will have a chance to build on the success they had in an 82-72 victory over the Calgary Dinos last Saturday night when they play host to the University of Victoria Vikes this weekend in the Main Gym. The Vikes, like the Pandas, currently sit at third place in their division and will also be looking for their seventh win of the season.

"It'll be interesting [Victoria's] a little stronger in the post than what Calgary was," Baker said. "We're going to have to do a better defensive job there, but I think we're playing really well in the post. Our shooters are playing better and I think we're stronger at the point; I think we'll have more of an edge there."

A big part of the Pandas' recent success under the basket can be credited to first-year post Maya Tecza. The 6'1" Kelowna, BC, product's 6.7 rebounds per game is a team high and a big part of why the Pandas lead Canada West in offensive rebounds per game with 14.3.

"I don't want to say anything because I don't want to jinx her," Baker laughed. "When I recruited her she said, 'That's what I do: I rebound.' She comes everyday ready to play, and it's wonderful to get that consistency out of a player that age. It's amazing. I don't think even [Kristen Jarock] was that consistent in her rookie year. She had great games for us last season and then she had good games for us, but Maya's just been really steady all year long. Maya shot 10-13 from the floor against the big girl from Simon Fraser when we played them. She's not intimidated."

"She works hard in practice and she never gets



**ON DEADLY GROUND** The Pandas are hoping their homecourt is lethal this weekend against UVIC.

down on herself or the team. Personally, I'm impressed that for a rookie she's come along so far. She just keeps improving every day," Ariss said of Tecza. "She's not afraid to be physical anymore. When she came in, she was a little timid and now that we've beat her up in practice she's

used to physical play. She's playing hard and she's not making many mistakes. The mistakes she's making are being made out of trying to make something happen."

The Pandas and Vikes will tip-off on Friday and Saturday night at 6:30pm in the Main Gym.

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INTO THE SUN The volleyball Bears have been putting the hurt on their competition with an 11-1 conference record. FILE PHOTO: BEN REGLEY

## The Wesmen, whatever they are, are coming

### Top-ranked Bears volleyball squad host fifth-ranked Winnipeg this weekend

ANDREW RENFREE  
Sports Staff

Bears volleyball head coach Terry Danyluk feels it's always important to understand an opponent before a match. True, it's more important to focus on your own side of the court, but knowing enough about the other team could expose potential weaknesses in their play. The Bears volleyball team is set to take on the Winnipeg Wesmen this weekend, and given the importance of knowing opponents, one question remains: what exactly is a Wesmen?

"You know what, I don't know what their symbol means," said Danyluk. "I'm sure it has some historical relevance, though, because there's a lot of history of Winnipeg."

Incidentally, the name Wesmen is what settlers used to call students from Wesley College, which merged with Manitoba College to later become the University of Winnipeg. While Danyluk was stumped by the meaning of Wesmen, he is certain that the matches between his Alberta squad and the boys from the "Peg should be competitive.

"We're playing a team that is one of the top-six ranked teams in the country," he said, noting that Calgary, who the Bears beat easily last weekend, was not ranked nationally. "My expectation is that this will be a much more difficult team to play against and also a

team with a different style—we need to be ready for that. For sure. They've got an experienced setter and their offence can be a little more consistent than what we saw this past weekend in Calgary."

Winnipeg is currently ranked fifth in the country behind Alberta, Trinity Western, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. UBC is ranked sixth, behind Winnipeg, so the six best volleyball teams in CIS are from the Canada West Division. Danyluk says that this is partly because coaches spend the extra time recruiting and preparing their teams for the intense western competition.

"All the teams that want to be competitive need to be strong in our conference," he said. "Canada West schools have traditionally been quite strong, and in order to be successful in your division you need to put a good team on the floor. We play against good teams every weekend; it's very rare that we play a bad team."

The Wesmen sit two games above .500 with a record of 7-5 on the year. This is a complete turnaround from 2004/05, in which Winnipeg only registered seven wins on the whole year. Alberta will be the favourite to win this weekend, but Danyluk says his squad won't take Winnipeg lightly.

"They're well-coached; I think Larry McKay, who coaches in Winnipeg, has done a good job preparing this team, and they're usually

quite a feisty group," said Danyluk. "Winnipeg is ranked fifth in the country now, and that's a pretty good ranking in the top level of volleyball in the CIS. There are a lot of pretty equal teams [in the Canada West] and they've lost a couple of five-game matches that could have easily gone the other way."

This will be a big weekend for the Alberta volleyball program because it will be the last time that some fifth-year Bears play in front of a home crowd during the regular season. Nicholas Cundy, Adam Sillery, Brock Davidluk, Anthony Skulcette and captain Leo Carroll, all in their final year of CIS eligibility, will all be honoured for their contributions to the Bears program in a special ceremony on Sunday.

"This weekend is graduating player weekend. It's the last set of league weekend games we play at home, and every year the last match we play here at home is a chance to celebrate our graduating players," Danyluk said. "There will be a ceremony for the players at the match on Sunday, then we also have a parent and friend reception that follows the game."

Varsity athletics are in full force this weekend, so the volleyball games will not be held at their regular scheduled times. The Bears will take on the Wesmen Saturday afternoon at 3:30pm and Sunday at 2:00pm. Both games will be held in the Main Gym.

## Track Bears and Pandas jump into 2006 season

ARITRA DAS  
Sports Writer

After finishing last season with fifth- and eighth-place finishes respectively, the Bears and Pandas have high aspirations with a new year upon them. They're heading into this weekend's Golden Bear Invitational, their first official home event of the 2006 indoor track season, with the Bears ranked third and Pandas fourth by CIS, and are hoping that their rise won't stop there.

The Bears and Pandas provided what could be a sneak peek for this year's performances two weeks ago at the Huskie Invitational held in Saskatoon. Several Alberta athletes medalled, with Antoine Bousombo and Ryan Adams finishing first and second, respectively, in the men's 60m dash, with times of 6.93

seconds and 7.14 seconds. Bousombo also finished first in the men's 300m event, with a time of 35.29 seconds. U of A track coach Georgette Reed has come to expect solid performances from the third-year science major.

"Antoine has always been a very strong athlete," she said. "He just kind of walked onto our team. He was an Olympian in his native country [Gabon, Africa] and he's come here and done very well for us."

Other notable Bears performances included Adrian Lambert's first-place finish in the 3000m and the first-place finish in the men's 4x200m team.

The strong performances by the Bears were echoed by the Pandas. Carrah Bouma and Melissa Jeremy placed first and second, respectively, in the women's 300m. The Pandas had a very strong showing in the 4 x 200m

relay, besting the competition with a time of 1:43.88. Reed expressed confidence in the Pandas' sprinters, who, along with the whole program, are coming into their own.

"We've got so much depth on our women's side that we've never had before. We've gotten stronger every year because we've got the right personnel in place and better recruiting."

And, as Kristen Rowntree's second-place finish shows, the women's high jumpers are much-improved. Reed said Rowntree's strong showing is the first of what she's hoping will be many medals for her jumpers.

"We have a ton of potential. I think our jumpers will come around and show everyone that we have a very well-rounded team."

The Golden Bear Invitational goes tomorrow at 6pm at the Buttermere.

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FILE PHOTO: BEN BEGLEY

**OUT FOR JUSTICE** No, it's not the greatest Steven Seagal movie ever made; Regina's going to pay for beating Alberta.

## Puck Pandas aim to right past wrongs vs Regina

JAKE TROUGHTON  
Senior News Editor

It's become almost impossible to talk about the Pandas hockey team without bringing up one of their impressive streaks, whether it be their four straight conference titles, their three straight national titles before last year, or their unprecedented 110-game unbeaten stretch that lasted nearly four seasons. So it seems strange that as they prepare to host the Regina Cougars this weekend, their winning streak against the visitors stands at a mere one game.

The Pandas knew coming into this season that they'd be beatable, but so far the Cougars are the only team to actually beat them in conference play, posting a 4-1 win on opening night.

That gives the Pandas an unusual opportunity—for them, anyway. "I think we want to seek a little vengeance," said Pandas head coach Howie Draper. "Any time a team takes two points from you, you want to make sure they don't do it again."

Forward Tarin Podloski, a member of the Canadian under-22 team who scored a goal and four assists in four games in Germany earlier this month, echoed her coach's sentiments, if less forcefully.

"I think the next night we got our revenge," she said, referring to a 6-0 win over the Cougars a day after the loss. "But we want to make the point that they're not going to beat us again, and it was a one-time thing. Hopefully."

Beyond revenge, positioning in the playoff race will also be at stake when the teams take to the ice at Clare Drake Arena—where, incidentally, the Pandas are on a five-year-plus unbeaten streak. If that streak ends, as several others have, and the Cougars win both games, they'll pull within one point of the first-place Pandas, who've already clinched a playoff spot.

Contrary to the cliché, the Pandas have managed to win plenty of games in recent years despite not playing their best, because they were simply that much better than the competition. This year, though, it's already

been proven that the Cougars are fully capable of taking advantage of any lapses in Alberta's play.

"They took it to us that [first] game," said Draper. "They dominated the majority of the game, so we fully recognize the kind of threat they pose."

According to Draper, a major contributing factor in the earlier loss to Regina was that the Pandas reacted poorly to finding themselves behind, causing them to stray from their game plan.

"And if you look on the other side, Regina gets that first goal and they're elevated, because they haven't had that luxury against us in a long time."

But the Pandas have found themselves trailing much more often this season, including in a recent pair of exhibition losses to the Edmonton Chimos over an eight-day span, and Draper said he's confident that experience will mean falling behind early won't necessarily lead to another Regina win.

The puck drops for the Pandas' first home games in nearly two months Friday and Saturday night at 7pm.

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## Point: Canada's hockey roster a winner

Gretzky knows what he's doing—he's Gretzky; Prusakowski clearly jealous



ANDREW  
RENFREE

Point

When it comes to selecting Olympic athletes, typically the big question is: who will have the privilege of representing their country? However, in the case of the Canadian men's hockey team, the questions usually revolve not around who will make the team, but rather, who won't.

In all honesty, Canada could send two men's hockey teams to Turin and both would have a strong chance of bringing home a medal. Sorry Sweden and Russia, this isn't mere patriotic bragging; it's the truth. After all, hockey is the one thing Canadians are damn good at. You take that away from us and all that's left is a frozen wasteland full of maple syrup and beavers—not that there's anything wrong with these exports, but hockey is our claim to fame. Because there's ample talent in these parts, as soon as Hockey Canada announced who would wear the Maple Leaf in Italy, people started complaining about who was excluded.

Mr Prusakowski is one of these people. Granted, he has travelled around North America covering and watching hockey at all levels, though I would hazard a guess that Wayne Gretzky knows a bit more about the ideal Olympic roster than a guy who wants to be a fire truck when he grows up does.

Let's briefly review some statistics to reiterate the point. Wayne Gretzky: 894 goals, 1963 assists, nine Hart Trophies and ten Art Ross Trophies. Ross Prusakowski: none. I think it's clear

who knows more about the game.

Most of the complaining about the roster is a result of Canadians having nothing better to gripe about (other than federal politics). Nevertheless, several issues have been raised repeatedly. Some people have criticized the choices of Danny Heatley and Todd Bertuzzi. Neither of these players are defencemen, but both have been defendants in court cases the last couple of years. Some fans argue that because of their colourful legal history these players shouldn't be allowed to represent Canada. However, both Heatley and Bertuzzi have been cleared by the courts and the NHL to resume playing. It seems unreasonable to expect Wayne Gretzky to be a moral authority above the law and the league—he's a hockey guru, not the Pope.

**Yes, Crosby has played well this season, and is touted as the game's next wonder, but do we really want the pride of a nation on the shoulders of an 18-year old kid who's only played half a season in the NHL?**

People have also argued that some team members are too old, while younger, better players have been relegated to the taxi squad, or were not selected at all. Case in point is Sidney Crosby, who has been in the top 20 in scoring all season, but will watch the games from his couch. Kris Draper, on the other hand, has only mustered

a paltry twelve points this season, but somehow has found himself on Team Canada. Why is this? What was Gretzky thinking to exclude Sid the Kid for old Drapes? Yes, Crosby has played well this season, and is touted as the game's next wonder, but do we really want the pride of a nation on the shoulders of an 18-year-old kid who's only played half a season in the NHL? Personally, I'd rather have an aged and experienced Kris Draper representing the flag. It seems that Canadian hockey this year is like good wine: better with age. As long as your wine doesn't pull its groin, then the age shouldn't be a concern for fans.

People are also upset that Ryan Smyth made the team. This, quite simply, is tripe, because few players deserve to be on the team more than Smyth does. It could be argued that Ryan Smyth should be the captain of this team due to his vast experience on international ice. He has played more games at the World Hockey Championship than any other Canadian, and was a member of the 2002 Olympic and 2004 World Cup of Hockey teams, both of which won gold medals.

Before the 2002 Olympics, people made similar complaints. Surprisingly, these same people were nowhere to be found when the Canadians won the gold medal. No matter who makes this team, someone will be upset, even if it's only Sidney Crosby's mother. Canadians who complain about the roster do so based on stats, but Gretzky and Hockey Canada know these men based on their leadership abilities and chemistry as a team. I'm confident that their choices will result in a repeat gold medal. I just hope I'll be able to say, "I told you so," on 27 February.

## Counterpoint: roster flawed by nepotism

Gretzky and Kevin Lowe picked their favourite players, not the nation's best



ROSS  
PRUSAKOWSKI

Counterpoint

I take issue with your first comment, Andrew. As a hockey nation, Canada boasts enough talent to sweep the medals in men's hockey at the Winter Olympics.

While this means that some tough decisions had to be made when Wayne Gretzky and his brain trust were filling in the line-up, the edition of Team Canada that will take the ice in February won't be the best team that could have been sent.

That's because the management and coaches involved in making the decisions allowed nepotism, rather than talent, guide them when they were selecting the roster and added players not worthy of going (read: Ryan Smyth and Shane Doan). If not for the influence of Gretzky (Doan's coach) and Kevin Lowe (Smyth's GM), those two players would be on this side of the Atlantic when the games roll around, watching the action live on TV.

Smyth and Doan should be cheering from their living rooms, not travelling to Italy this February, given their mediocre performances this season and the fact that a bevy of young players have had better seasons and could use the experience for the 2010 games

in Vancouver

True, having shown commitment to Canadian hockey in international events should count for something, but that shouldn't be enough to put a pair of players who can't contribute offensively and are there because of their benefactors' pull on the team. Players like Eric Staal and Jason Spezza are more deserving of regular roster spots, and having them play and gain international experience will benefit Canada more in the long run than having Doan or Smyth playing eight minutes a game will.

**If not for the influence of Gretzky (Doan's coach) and Kevin Lowe (Smyth's GM), those two players would be on this side of the Atlantic when the games roll around, watching the action live on TV.**

Unfortunately, putting their own favourite players on the team ahead of more deserving ones isn't the only liability Hockey Canada has created with this team. Thanks to the inclusion of Ed Jovanovski and Adam Foote back on the blue line, fans (and our goals)

should be used to seeing opponents blot out these sluggish defenders and putting points on the board.

Both have looked out of place all too often in the new, open NHL, and putting them on the bigger international ice surface is like giving matches and a gas can to a pyromaniac. Add to that Jovanovski's penchant for taking ill-timed penalties and the fact that Foote still hasn't shown signs of recovering from a year off, and it seems that Gretzky and friends have let nostalgia about what these players used to be like get in the way of putting the best team on the ice. If they were truly interested in doing the latter, then skilled rear-guarders like Dan Boyle or Dion Phaneuf would have made the cut.

Of all the questionable or bad decisions about personnel for this team, nothing lowers the quality of the team more than the inclusion of Todd Bertuzzi. From bad penalties, his short fuse and the sickening sucker-punch incident that only Vancouver Canucks fans have managed to forget about, taking a pylon instead of Bertuzzi would have been a better and more respectable move for the team.

No matter what the thoughts are before the Olympics, the absurd depth that Canada has on the ice means that no matter the warts on the team sent over, it has to be a favourite to capture the gold medal. However, should Canada manage to best the world's toughest competition this time, it will be in spite of the gaping holes on its roster.

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## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Helen's Necklace

Written by Carol Fr  chette  
19 January–5 February  
Varscona Theatre

We all know what it feels like to lose a valuable keepsake; man, does it ever suck. Whether it's an expensive ring or a sentimental locket, those trinkets we hold close to our hearts can never be replaced. However, instead of just proclaiming defeat, Shadow Theatre's production of *Helen's Necklace* explores the lengths some will go to recover a lost possession.

The play centres upon Helen, a woman in search of her missing necklace, and her journey within a war-torn city in the Middle East. With the help and protection of a taxi driver, Helen not only discovers the difficulty of retrieving her necklace, but also the depths of the experience itself.

If you've ever been in a similar situation, or you're just interested in knowing the outcome of the play, make sure you check out *Helen's Necklace*.



### The Epoxies

Thursday, 19 January at 8pm  
New City Suburbs

Ever wondered what music might be like in 50 years when your skin is sagging and your hair is grey? If so, you should catch The Epoxies tonight live at New City Suburbs and sneak a peek at what your grandchildren might be listening to in the future.

Combining upbeat punk energy with out-of-this-world synthesizers, The Epoxies have created a sound that is unlike any other new wave artist out there. And aside from their music, the guys and gals sport such electrifying colours and snazzy glasses that performances are sure to be filled with hot pink laser beams and crazy antics.

### Tupelo Honey

With *Murder City Sparrows*  
Friday, 20 January at 8pm  
The Powerplant

Engineering Week is almost at its end, and there's no better way to wrap up the beer-drinking, pirate-charting festivities than to head on over to the Plant and catch Tupelo Honey live in action.

Although the Edmonton-based boys are fairly new to the music scene, they've managed to score enormous amounts of recognition over the last little while. With their hit single "Why I Bother" in rotation on radio stations, and a touring history that involves playing alongside familiar names such as Billy Talent, The Tea Party and The Trews, the rock quintet is bound to gain international acclaim. Missing out on the show, especially when you have nothing better to do except pet your dog Rover all evening, would be a shame.

AMANDA ASH  
Empress of Awesomistan



A NEW CHARACTER Don Hannah, mind behind more than 20 stage productions, will now be working at—and writing a play for—the U of A. LAUREN JENNINGS

# The playwright's the thing

Acclaimed playwright Don Hannah takes office at the U of A as Canada's only Playwright-in-Residence

AMANDA ASH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

We all know that the University of Alberta is internationally recognized for its Faculty of Engineering, with the acclaim always increasing alongside the glittering buildings, donations and entrance grades. However, according to the University's first-ever Lee Playwright-in-Residence, Don Hannah, the chanting pirates aren't the only ones receiving all the attention as of late.

Thanks to the success of its talented graduates and respected instructors, the U of A Department of Drama has become widely acknowledged across the country. With prizes being sung from coast to coast by actors, writers and directors, Hannah has no qualms about moving away from his home in Toronto to take up a new post that allows him to work with some of the most gifted students and staff in Canada.

"I'm really excited to get to know the U of A Drama Department," says Hannah. "I've heard about it for such a long time, and I've worked with people who've come out of the U of A as both actors and directors, and they've been extremely bright people. In fact, when I was leaving Toronto to come here, some of my best friends were telling me how happy they were in the Drama Department at the U of A. They really envied me. [The Drama Department] has a really good reputation across the country, and I'm just really happy to be able to hang around and see what it's all about."

Both a renowned playwright and creator of more than 20 Canadian stage productions, Hannah is the first to experience the U of A's newly founded Playwright-in-Residence position, a program made possible by a generous legacy endowment by the Clifford E Lee Foundation. Unlike Writer-In-Residence positions that are found across the country,

the Playwright-In-Residence position is currently the only one of its kind in Canada. And from Hannah's point-of-view, being the first to fill the spot definitely comes with its advantages.

**"I've never done playwrights' residencies. It's a totally different thing, and the job appealed to me for that specific reason. Plus, there's a commission attached to write a play for the graduating classes. For me, writing a play for a large cast and young actors is a really interesting challenge."**

DON HANNAH  
U OF A'S FIRST PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE

"The good thing is that nobody gets to say 'We liked so-and-so better when they did it!'" laughs Hannah. "Not only that, but I also get to be a part of shaping the residency, which is an interesting thing to do. I'll get to see what will work in the future and maybe what won't work, and I'll be able to try all sorts of things out. It's really great to be the first."

Hannah will remain in Edmonton until June of 2007, and during his stay at the University, he will invest half of his time writing, while the other half will be spent mentoring aspiring playwrights. Part of his

job description requires some involvement in the Edmonton drama community by reading scripts, and individuals interested in showing somebody their plays while gaining professional feedback are welcome to visit his office, which is conveniently set up in HUB Mall.

Although Hannah is eagerly awaiting the daily regiment of lecturing and writing, a couple of the most appealing benefits of obtaining the residency is to, of course, be able to live off his work, and to present the graduating class with something to remember.

"For most of us who work as writers, or playwrights specifically, it's pretty impossible to do anything with the income that comes from our work," Hannah explains. "That's why a residency is such a terrific thing. It's a chance to do what I love to do and get paid for it at the same time."

"I've done writers' residencies before, but I've never done playwrights' residencies. It's a totally different thing, and the job appealed to me for that specific reason. Plus, there's a commission attached to write a play for the graduating classes. For me, writing a play for a large cast and young actors is a really interesting challenge."

While Hannah intends to leave behind his creative ingenuity to a few playwrights- and actors-to-be, he is still unsure of what he'll bring away from his experience. Hopefully the U of A will leave Hannah with some enjoyable memories, and perhaps the inspiration for an Edmonton-based play.

"The important part about doing a residency is to be open to whatever comes up, and to not have preconceived notions about what is going to happen," Hannah says. "When I leave, I do hope to take a lot away with me. However, I have no idea what that will be yet. We'll have to wait and see."

# Terrifico results for rookie filmmaker

Former Albertan Michael Mabbott makes his directorial debut with the Canada-inspired country music mockumentary, *The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico*

## The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico

Directed By Michael Mabbott  
Starring Matt Murphy, Natalie Radford,  
Kris Kristofferson, Phil Kaufman and  
Ronnie Hawkins  
Opens 20 January, 2006  
Princess Theatre

EDMON ROTEA  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

For first-time film directors and new actors, making your first film can be a lot like losing one's virginity: sure, the experience may be daunting and difficult at first, but the initial clumsiness still leads to an awesome ending.

When asked about the filming of *The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico*, first-time director Michael Mabbott and the film's star, singer-turned-actor Matt Murphy, had a lot to say about their first filmmaking experience.

Murphy made the smooth transition from real-life singer/songwriter/guitarist for indie bands The Flashing Lights and The Superfriends to Guy Terrifico, the fictional silver screen character who also happens to be a singer/songwriter/guitarist.

"The role in the movie called for someone who was an exuberant stage performer and is a singer familiar with country music," says Murphy. "I could do both of those things, so it was a good fit and that's what really prepared me for the role."

In fact, an experienced actor was originally considered for the role of the larger-than-life Guy Terrifico, but after witnessing Murphy's pop-rock and country music acts, Mabbott had a spur-of-the-moment change of heart.

"Michael thought that an actor would be best for the role. But in his experience, he realized that an actor could not play a musician as well as a musician can," says Murphy.

But alas, the experience for the first-time actor was not without its challenges.

"I had to take some [acting] coaching both right before the filming and also for the first couple of days when we were on set," recalls Murphy. "I had never read a script before. I didn't know what was going on and I didn't know what I should be thinking about in each scene."

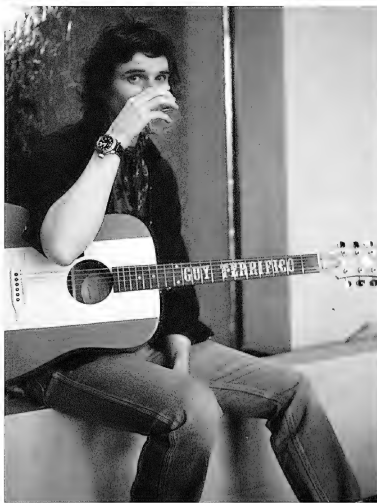
Fortunately, a personal acting coach helped Murphy visualize and assume the mindset of his silver-screen alter ego. With the help of the director, he even applied a unique acting method to help bring the character of Guy Terrifico to life.

"I applied Michael Mabbott's school of acting," explains Murphy, jokingly. "It's based on actor David Marne's technique—say the line and let things happen to you. That really is the key. I really didn't have to do anything except put a hat on, get kicked around, pop some pills, play and strum a guitar, and say my lines."

Coming up with the music that Murphy would be playing in the film was one of the most challenging aspects of production, one that presented itself even before Mabbott began writing the script.

"I brought about 20 songs to Matt Murphy, which is where the original concept for the film came from: from writing these silly songs. And, I'd say at least 60 per cent of the songs had 'Alberta' and 'blue sky' in the title," says Mabbott, who soon began recollecting his experiences growing up in Alberta.

Influences and tributes to Mabbott's Albertan upbringing can be found in the scenes concerning the story of



**THE REAL PEOPLE FROM A FAKE MOVIE** Guy Terrifico director Michael Mabbott (top) and star Matt Murphy (bottom) talk about making their mockumentary.

Guy Terrifico's "real-life" childhood, the story of the young boy named Jim Jablowski.

"Jim Jablowski and his grandparents are modelled slightly on my grandparents and my own life," Mabbott says. He even makes a reference to his grandmother in the film, with the film's narrator claiming that she made "the best damn perogies in town."

However, Guy Terrifico is more than just a country music mockumentary—it's also a reflection of the freedom and individualism of country music rebels during the 1960s and '70s.

"I think the spirit of what the real-life guys were doing—a lot of the outlaws like Kris Kristofferson and Willie Nelson and others—a lot of the stuff they did was very independent and very individualistic," says

Mabbott. "They did what they wanted to do, and they didn't let anybody tell them how to do it or whether they could do it or not, and to me, that's a very Albertan trait. You know, we're cowboys."

Ultimately Mabbott's film is not just a fictional story about an almost-rock star, but also about the spirit of Alberta and the Albertan people.

"The business people in this city and in this province are like cowboys; we work for ourselves, we do what we want to do, and we make it happen. I also think there's a whole bunch of parallels between the spirit of Albertans and the good and the bad parts of Guy Terrifico—both the over-zealous partying and having a good time, but more so for the free need to be independent and free."

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# Animation better than your Saturday morning cartoons

## Best of the Ottawa International Animation Festival

21 and 23 January at 7pm  
Metro Cinema

BEN CARTER  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

While the widespread changes in computer technology have affected almost every major visual medium, perhaps none has been as effectively transformed as the field of animation. Films like *Shrek 2* and *Madagascar* illustrate the popularity of new animation technology in popular culture, and *The Best of the Ottawa International Animation Festival*, playing next week at the Metro Cinema, shows the effect new technologies have had on animators and their work from countries all over the world.

Founded in 1975, the Ottawa International Animation Festival has grown to one of the largest animation festivals in the world, receiving over 1700 films in 2002, a record number of entries for an international animation festival. This year's Best of includes films from six different countries, in numerous forms of animation. While the classification of animation used for each short varies, each uses interesting and unique filmmaking techniques, presenting animation in ways not often seen inside the mainstream. The integration of various ideas and art forms results in numerous indelible images and distinct visual styles.

Two standout productions are also two of the longest on the compala-

tion. *Ichthys*, a Polish stop-motion animation production directed by Marek Skrobecki, is beautifully created and filmed. It features a man coming apart—both literally and figuratively—while waiting for his dinner. Surreal, mysterious, and darkly comic, *Ichthys* combines a well-crafted narrative with a striking visual style to create one of the highlights of the festival. Almost polar opposite to *Ichthys* is *Grau*, from German Robert Seidel, is an incredibly abstract computer-animated short. Presented as "a very private snapshot of a life within its last seconds," *Grau*'s breathtaking and detailed abstract imagery must be seen to be fully appreciated.

... this selection of mostly spectacular animation presents a varied and satisfying look at some of the most innovative and eclectic works of animation in the world today, making a perfect treat for both animation buffs and those ready to venture past a standard Disney production.

Several of the shorts are adapted from works of other forms of media



in popular culture, adding an unusual twist to the presentation. *The Curse of the Voodoo Child* by Steve Woloshen, set to the Jimi Hendrix classic, presents a series of dark, scratchy, distorted images of a relationship either afire with passion or in the middle of collapsing, while *At the Quinte Hotel* by Bruce Alcock is based on a work by Canadian poet Al Purdy. Both films prove to be compelling—and entertaining—interpretations

of the work of well-established artists. *Hitchcock*, a music video for the New Zealand band Phoenix Foundation, features a black-and-white ballet of flying cars that perfectly accentuates its urgent musical accompaniment.

Unfortunately, this year's Best of doesn't include any of the Grand Prize winners, and other shorts, such as JJ Villard's *Chestnuts Iscollopy*, have the right combination of creepy,

low-budget visuals and understated pretension to make for a very unexciting short.

Those critiques aside, however, this selection of mostly spectacular animation presents a varied and satisfying look at some of the most innovative and eclectic works of animation in the world today, making a perfect treat for both animation buffs and those ready to venture past a standard Disney production.

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# It's Junk, but still worth picking up

## Junk

Written by Christopher Largen  
ENC Press  
On Sale Now

LEAH ANDERSON  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

What would you do for a Klondike Bar? According to Christopher Largen's new book *Junk*, the answer is five to ten years in a federal penitentiary. Set in a not-too-distant-future America, when all unhealthy foods are illegal, Largen satirizes prohibition policies that exist today—namely the “War on Drugs”—in his fast-paced novel.

In *Junk*, the American government is battling against obesity by waging a war on junk food. This takes the form of not only a new and comprehensive law banning calorie-rich treats, but also ground troops being sent into African countries to destroy cocoa fields. While most of the country takes their dietary limitations in stride, an underground movement of junk-food defenders is fighting back, trying to reclaim their right to gorge on whatever they see fit. Told through the eyes of those in favour of the restrictions, those opposed, and those struggling in between, *Junk* takes a scathing look at prohibition policies and their effect on the citizens of the United States.

Largen covers the spectrum of attitudes towards the new federal laws by using multiple characters and formats to piece together his cynical tale of a United States that has taken control over civil liberties to a new level. A daughter sending letters to her mother from a junk-food rehabilitation centre is contrasted by description of facsimile advertisements encouraging employers to test their employees for illicit food use. By switching formats and showing multiple viewpoints, Largen communicates his point quickly and without overlabouring any one individual.

Fortunately, Largen doesn't fall back on stock characters to accomplish and maintain this pace. The men and women in *Junk* are recognizable yet compelling, and their views on the world within the novel fit their personas. A rookie cop with his first child about to enter the world serves as the logical voice to question the current food policies. His motivations are clear and his character grows throughout the novel.

The book is not without flaws, however. Largen ties his various characters together through chance encounters and hidden relationships, but frequently the ties are more disruptive than advantageous. In the beginning, where these connections would be helpful, the reader is lost in a sea of names and characters, and near the end of the novel one final connection is forged with a heavy-handedness that would make *deus ex machina* look featherweight in comparison.



It also seems confusing as to how long the laws have been in effect. In some chapters, it seems that the origins of the law are distant as people suffering from them don't question them. The number of people who form the junk food underground, however, lead you to believe that the laws are much more recent. If this was intentional on Largen's part, the motivation to create this discrepancy is unclear.

The resolution of the novel lacks clarity as well. Near the end, though some of the characters have escaped the restrictions of the food laws, the future remains uncertain. The world within the novel may not have been changed in any lasting way by the lives and efforts of its characters, but, as a reader, you're free to choose how you would like to amend your world. Largen may leave the reader with a powerful message, but in doing so he leaves the destiny of his characters unclear.

Overall, *Junk* is worth picking up despite its faults. It may not answer the question about prohibition policies, but it raises the issue, and it does so in an entertaining manner. Provided that you do not take it too seriously, *Junk* is a fun, light read that has many hilarious comparisons to the current war on drugs. Like an illegal candy bar from within its covers, *Junk* is high in flavour but low on substance, but sometimes that's all you need.

## IT'S TIME TO JOIN GATEWAY A&E

New volunteer meeting next Friday, 27 January at 5pm in 3-06 SUB.

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Simply email [contests@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:contests@gateway.ualberta.ca)  
and let us know which date you'd prefer:  
Wednesday or Thursday, January 25 or 26  
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A cheeky and darkly humorous glimpse into the life of a  
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Catalyst Theatre, January 25-26, 2008 and opens the Western on  
the West coast. Sisters' journey, described here, "Travis"  
receives a shocking and lovely story written by Oregon's gay  
scene. A beloved comedy about a young man coming to his first  
gay friends involving games, cheating and a boy's first kiss.

## Sisters, Such Devoted Sisters

**sisters, such devoted sisters**  
created/performed by russell barr  
in association with out of joint (uk)

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## STUDENT AWARDS

## SANDY MACTAGGART AWARD

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Deadline for receipt of applications in the Students Awards Office is 15 February 2006.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SCHOLARSHIPS, PLEASE VISIT [www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards)



## No people like Southern people

*Searching For The Wrong-Eyed Jesus*

Directed by Andrew Douglas  
Starring Jim White, Harry Crews and Johnny Dowd  
20, 22 January at 7pm  
Metro Cinema

JULIA DAVIS  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Here you feel the presence of the spirit. You may not like it, it might be wearing the costume of crazy religious people or wild hillbillies or whatever, but it's real, and it's alive and it's awake." This comment by Southern musician Jim White aptly describes his childhood home: the Deep South of the United States. Although White testifies to hating it growing up, the documentary film *Searching For The Wrong-Eyed Jesus* follows him as he travels through the South as an adult, finding a new appreciation for the people and culture of his old stomping ground.

*Searching For The Wrong-Eyed Jesus* is a documentary, but is ultimately more a film about people than it is about a place. The people in the Deep South are in many ways different from everyone else; their outlooks, their religious experiences, their attitudes and even what they look like are shown as unique in the film.

One of the most compelling segments has writer Harry Crews telling about how he would receive the Sears catalogue each year he was growing up. Everyone in the catalogue was perfect; they had all their teeth, eyes and fingers. He talks about the many people in the South that are disfigured somehow; whether it's from working dangerously, or playing dangerously, people there just don't look like those in the catalogue. Crews goes on to comment on how people in the South tell stories to let others know about themselves and what they believe about the world; storytelling is a huge part of Southern culture.

The tour taken by *Wrong-Eyed Jesus* goes through many small towns, profiling not only the culture, but also the difference in communities found in these cities. The centre of the



towns are home to the "haves" and the more respectable places like churches and shops, while the outskirts, the home of the "have-nots," as pointed out by Jim White, include the bars, truck stops, strip joints and sometimes even a prison. From these people who have nothing comes raw emotion, translated into musical inspiration, religious fanaticism and even criminal activity.

The filming of *Searching For The Wrong-Eyed Jesus* was done on 16mm film, with the only piece of fancy equipment used in filming being a camera dolly. There were no lights and no makeup, and the production crew even received the help of a group of local convicts for some scenes. The film is raw in every aspect, which is, as the movie shows, just like the South. *Searching For The Wrong-Eyed Jesus* is a brilliant attempt to bring the viewer a little bit closer to understanding the culture of the American Deep South, but as White remarks, "You can never completely understand the South, unless you yourself are a Southerner."

## This Federal Liberal Government Responds to the Needs of Students and Post Secondary Institutions:

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LLB – 1979  
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Sessional Instructor - Commercial Law - Faculty of Extension – 1992 – 2006

### *The Liberal Commitment for post secondary education in Alberta:*

- 50/50 Tuition Program for affordable post secondary education (announced Jan. 5, 2006)
- Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation - \$134.4 million in bursaries and scholarships in Alberta from 2000 - 2004
- \$2.2 billion pledged over five years to support student financial assistance
- \$550 million over 5 years to extend Canada Access Grants to 55,000 students
- \$3.5 billion over 5 years to increase workplace-based apprenticeships and skills training
- \$1 billion this year for provinces and territories to help universities keep up with increasing enrolment, infrastructure and technology demands



**Andy Hladyshevsky**  
Edmonton Strathcona  
Campaign Office  
10416-81 Avenue  
Telephone: 442-4626  
Email:  
[andystrathcona@telus.net](mailto:andystrathcona@telus.net)



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## CLASSIFIEDS

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Spring break South Padre Island, Texas. 2/1r condo located 1/4 block to beach and walking distance to restaurants and entertainment district. \$200/week USD (USD) 299-0194.  
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### FOUND

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Red Deer College in Kenya. 10-30 May, 2006. Masai Mara Tsavo National Park, Indian Ocean Coast. Principles of ecology and/or indigenous and cultural minorities in the modern world. [ecoworld@reddeer.ca](mailto:ecoworld@reddeer.ca) 492-3142.

Karma Tashi Lung Tibetan Buddhist Centre, Lama Ani Kunsang resident teacher, invites students and staff to Buddhist meditation practice Weds 7pm, 10502 70 ave. 633-6157.

ASL sign language class level two begins 19 January 2006 for twelve weeks. Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm. Contact: Specialized Support & Disability Services, U of A, 492-3381, 2-800 SUB for more information.

### EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Independent Advocacy provides service for adults w/ developmental disabilities. Require caring profess for flt and pft work, various shifts. Duties incl assist w/ personal care, transferring, light house keeping, meal prep and community access. Reg shifts are 4 on 4 off rotation. Staff are placed in various locations depending on avail openings. Requirements: current std 1st aid, police and child welfare checks \$11.84-\$12.84 Apply by fax 454-8522 or e-mail.

West Edmonton food processor needs full-time people for packaging. Evening shift (4 pm-1am). Reply in person, back door, 10633 172 street, NW. 11-12pm. Starting wage \$9.50. No experience necessary. Start immediately.

### EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

P/T receptionist required for sports chiropractic clinic. Campus location, flexible hours, competitive wages and flr summer hours. Applicant must possess excellent communication and customer service skills. Reception experience an asset but not required. E-mail resume to [kniters@rivervall.ca](mailto:kniters@rivervall.ca)

Transitions Rehabilitation Association of St Albert & District is looking for personal support workers/respite workers to work with children and adults with developmental disabilities. Presently, we have evening, weekend and overnights shifts available. Successful candidates must have current and clear police check, current child welfare check if working with children. A car is essential and insured for one million liability. CPR and first aid course must be completed within 3 months. If you are interested, please forward your resume to: human resources #202, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave, St Albert, Alberta T8N 1B4 or e-mail [kathleen@transitions-ab.org](mailto:kathleen@transitions-ab.org).

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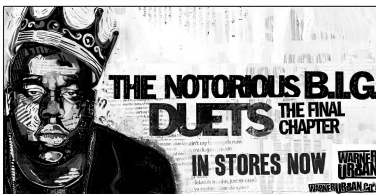
in case there's something you care about besides fish genes in your tomatoes\*

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APIRG

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JANUARY 2006

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22		THIS MONDAY, VOTE.				

To know when and where to vote, consult your voter information card. It includes all the information you'll need to use your right to vote, and you'll get through the voting process more quickly if you have it with you.

Voting hours for your polling station are indicated on your voter information card and on the Elections Canada Web site at [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca) by clicking on the Voter Information Service icon.

If you haven't received this card, you are probably not on the voters list. To be able to vote, all you have to do is go to your polling station on election day, January 23, and present an official document that includes your name, address and signature. If you do not have such a document, you will be given the opportunity to swear that you are eligible to vote at the polling station you are in, as long as you are accompanied by a voter registered in the same polling division who can vouch for your identity.

For more information, please contact your local Elections Canada office or visit our Web site at [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca).

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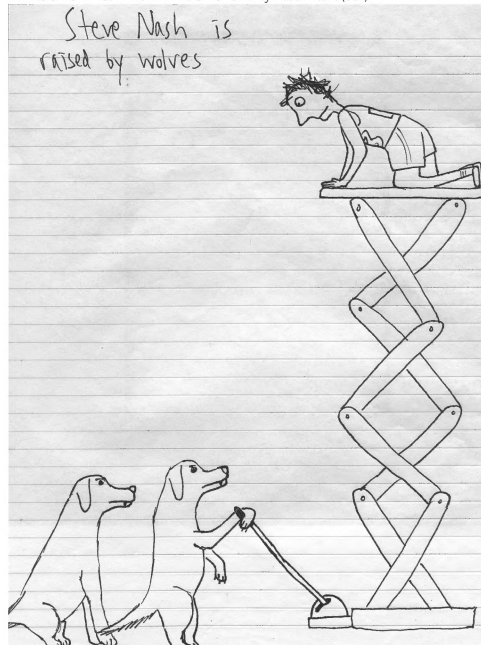
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LIVING &amp; LOVING: THE STEVE NASH STORY by Braden Deane (CLIP)



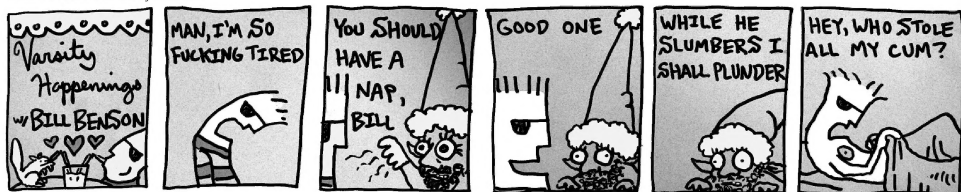
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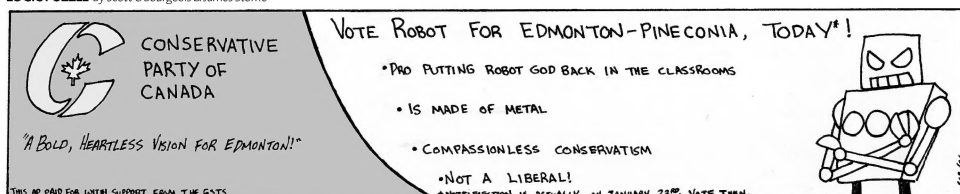
## HALEY'S COMIX by Mike Robertson



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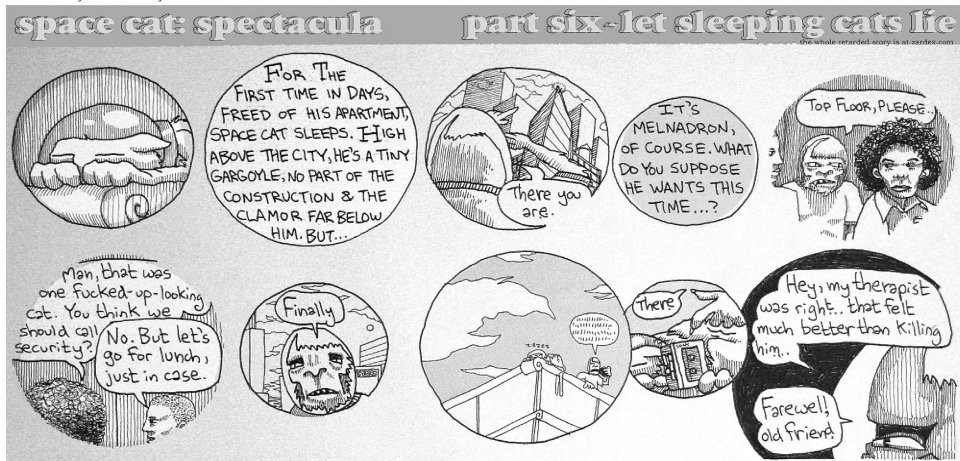
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